

Pinellas County Code of Ordinances (for Unincorporated Areas)
Part II, Pinellas County Code
Chapter 58 – Environment
Article XII

Noise Control:

Pinellas County uses a decibel-based noise control program that places maximum limits on noise allowed on a property. In residential areas between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 p.m., a noise level of 72dBA (decibels) is allowed. After 11 p.m. the allowable level is reduced to 55dBA. As an example, normal conversation between two people standing five feet apart would measure about 55dBA.

Excessive noise from parties, people or vehicles is handled by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, (727) 582-6200. Normal maintenance and use of equipment such as lawn mowers, chainsaws, leaf blowers, and flushing boat motors are all conventional to everyday life and are exempted when used reasonably.

a) Except for those noises otherwise specifically provided for within this article, and in addition to the prohibitions set forth in [section 58-444](#) it shall be unlawful to create or to permit to be created any noise within a residential zone that exceeds 72 dBA during the hours between 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., or 55 dBA during the hours between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., daily, measured at the nearest adjacent property line.

(b) It shall be unlawful to operate or permit to be operated any air conditioning, heating or ventilating unit at any time that produces a noise exceeding 60 dBA, measured at the nearest adjacent property line.

(c) In the case of multifamily dwelling units, it shall be unlawful to create or permit to be created any noise that exceeds 55 dBA during the hours between 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., or 40 dBA during the hours between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., daily, measured from a neighbor's dwelling.

Notwithstanding the noise prohibitions set out in this article, the following shall be permitted:

(1) The operation of warning or emergency signal devices such as sirens, horns, and bells when utilized for their intended purpose.

(2) Noises resulting from equipment or operations incidental to the emergency repair of facilities or restoration of services such as public utilities or other emergency activities in the public interest. **(which should include emergency repairs to individual residences)**

(3) Ordinary noise created by the operation of railways, shipping lanes and aircraft.

(4) Noises consistent with cultural, historical or traditional observances, holidays and ceremonies, provided that a permit for such event has been obtained from the county administrator, city manager or town manager in accordance with section 58-451.