

- **Dumping**, hazardous spills in the public right-of-way or storm drains, murky water, dumping in creek
[Engineering](#)
925-934-3908 7:00 am - 3:30 pm M-F
925-284-5010 after hours (Police)
- **Erosion**, slope stability - impacting public right-of-way
[Engineering](#)
925-284-1951
- **Fences**, walls, pillars, etc. constructed along property frontage
[Engineering](#)
925-284-1951
- **Grading** – For grading-related violations
[Contra Costa County Building Department](#)
925-299-0263
- **Noise** - general noise complaints
[Code Enforcement](#)
925-299-3280 7:00 am - 3:30 pm M-F
925-284-5010 after hours (Police)
- **Park Issues**
[Parks, Trails & Recreation Department](#)
925-284-2232
- **Public right-of-way Construction**
[Engineering](#)
925-284-1951
- **Restaurant Inspections**
[Contra Costa County Environmental Health Division](#)
925-608-5500

- **Sewers**
[Central Contra Costa Sanitary District](#)
Illegal discharges/ spills into sewer system
925-229-7288 (during business hours)
925-229-7214 (after business hours)
- **Signs** - Business, A-frame, banners, real estate, political or non-commercial on public or private property
[Code Enforcement](#)
925-299-3280
- **Storage** of non-operating vehicles, debris, and other visual nuisances in driveways or front yards
[Code Enforcement](#)
925-299-3280
- **Weed Abatement** - Private Property
[Contra Costa County Fire Protection District](#)
925-941-3300 x1505



City of Lafayette
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City of Lafayette CODE ENFORCEMENT

Maintaining and Enhancing Lafayette's
Neighborhoods and the Downtown



What Is Code Enforcement and why do we need it?

The function of the [Code Enforcement Officer](#) is to enforce the [Lafayette Municipal Code](#), particularly as it relates to land use and property maintenance. Good code enforcement can improve the quality of our neighborhoods, protect property values and the environment and keep Lafayette a safe and desirable community. Specifically, the Code Enforcement Officer is responsible for the investigation and abatement of complaints involving land use (zoning), exterior housing conditions, abandoned vehicles, illegal signs, graffiti, fences, tree protection, noise control, and neighborhood blight. The County Building Inspection Department is responsible for enforcing building code and grading violations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My neighbors have an RV parked in their driveway. Can they keep it there?

A: RV's, trailers of any type, and non-operational vehicles are best stored offsite, however, they may remain on a developed property provided they are screened from public view and adjoining properties. See [Parking, Vehicle, Storage, & Repairs](#) for more information.

Q: I want to raise chickens. Can I keep them in my yard?

A: Properties in the [R-6](#) and greater zoning designations may maintain chickens on their properties provided they comply with the [Small Farm Animal](#) regulations. Roosters are discouraged because they create a noise nuisance, and are not required for sustainable egg farming.

Q: I want to build a fence around my property. How tall can it be?

A: Six feet is the maximum height for [fences](#), except for those placed on corner lots. Taller fences require a [Variance Permit](#) from the [City's Planning Department](#). Fences over 7 feet in height require a building permit from [Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development \(CCDCD\)](#).

Q: I want to remove a tree from my property. Do I need a permit?

A: The City of Lafayette has a [Tree Protection Ordinance](#). Trees of a protected species may not be removed, or pruned in a manner that is detrimental to the tree, without a [Tree Removal Permit](#).

Q: I want to post a sign advertising my business. Can I put out an A-frame sign?

A: No, A-frame and portable signs are not permitted in Lafayette, with the exception of portable [Realty signs](#) only during the hours of an open house. [Signage](#) is strictly regulated by the [City's Planning Department](#).

Q: I want to construct decorative retaining walls to terrace my hillside landscaping. Who do I talk to?

A: The City contracts its building services with the Contra Costa County Building Inspection Department (CCCBID). Retaining walls that do not exceed 3 feet in height do not require a building permit. However, any retaining wall greater than 3 feet in height does require a building permit. Additionally, any project that requires a building or grading permit from CCCBID in the [Hillside Overlay District](#) also requires a [Hillside Development Permit](#) from the City. A grading permit is required for the movement of > 50 cubic yds. of soil, which is inclusive of both cut and fill.

Q: How Do I File A Complaint?

A: You may file a complaint by filling out our online [Code Enforcement Request Form](#), by contacting the Code Enforcement Department at 925-299-3280, or coming in to the City Offices during business hours.

Note that the City does not handle all types of issues, so please refer to the information below before contacting the City.

- **Animals** - Dead birds, squirrels
[California Department of Public Health](#)
877-968-2473
Barking dogs, dead deer; other dead animals
[Animal Services](#)
925-335-8320
Rats, skunks, raccoons, mosquitos [Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control](#)
925-685-9301
- **Bees** - [Mt. Diablo Beekeepers Association](#) has information on bees and how to report a swarm.
- **Building Permits & Inspection**
[Contra Costa County Building Department](#)
925-299-0263
- **Businesses** in residential areas
[Code Enforcement](#) 925-299-3280
- **Culverts, creek - flood & erosion control**
[Public Works](#)
925-934-3908