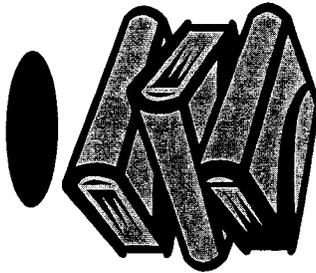


The Planning & Code Enforcement Division of the Community Development Department primarily enforces Foster City Municipal Code Titles 6, 9, 15, 17 and Estero Municipal Improvement District Code Title 6 & 8:

- Title 6 – Animal Control, Sections 6.04.320 and 6.04.330
- Title 9 – Public Peace, Morals & Welfare, Section 9.52.010
- Title 15 – Building & Construction, Sign Control, Chapter 15.12
- Title 17 – Zoning (General Plan)
- EMID Code – Titles 6 & 8 – Water & Sewer Service



In order to increase public awareness, the Foster City Community Development Department has developed this brochure for mutual interest in a safe, healthy, aesthetic and functional city.

We recycle our paper!

**INVESTIGATION PRIORITIES:**

1. Conditions / problems that pose an immediate threat to the health, safety or welfare of the public
2. Conditions / problems that are not presently a risk or danger, but are expected to be in a short period of time.
3. Conditions / problems that are of high priority or concern to the City Council or Estero Municipal Improvement District Board of Directors, e.g. EMID Code, water conservation and rationing.
4. Conditions / problems which are not expected to pose a threat, but which may negatively affect the appearance of the City / District.

More complete information may be obtained by contacting the Community Development Department at 650-286-3232



**COMMUNITY MEDIATION PROGRAM**

Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center  
177 Bover Road, Suite 230  
San Mateo, CA 94402  
(650) 571-0367

This organization can help in all civil matters to assist neighbors in dispute and help parties reach agreement.

*City*

*of*

*Foster City*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT  
INFORMATION**



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
610 Foster City Boulevard  
Foster City, CA 94404  
(650) 286-3232  
CDD@fostercity.org

## WHAT IS CODE ENFORCEMENT?

Code enforcement is the manner in which the "Codes" which are the standards and laws of the City, are enforced to assure that the safety, health, welfare and aesthetic values of the City are observed.

## HOW DO THESE CODES AFFECT YOU?

To summarize, some of the most recurrent questions, and the most frequently violated sections are included below:

### Title 9, Section 9.52.040 – Weeds, Trash, Disrepair

*Q: My neighbors have let weeds grow in their yard and have generally neglected the premises. What can be done?*

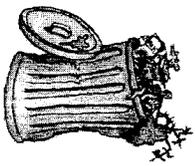
A: Weeds/trash and debris are fire hazards and also harbor rats. Enforcement action may be required for this type of violation. Appropriate measures must be taken to correct these infractions, which are a health safety as well as an aesthetic problem.

*Q: My neighbor's house has been partially painted for over a year. Can anything be done?*

A: Unpainted, unstained, partially chipped or peeling exteriors of buildings, fences and structures, as well as buildings, fences and structures left partially unpainted for an unreasonable period of time constitute a property nuisance.

*Q: Can anything be done about garbage cans that are left out in front all week?*

A: Garbage cans stored in front or side yards and visible from the public street or lagoon are considered to be an offense against the property, subject to abatement.



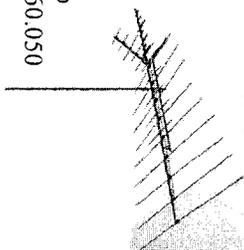
*Q: An overgrown tree is obstructing the view of drivers at the intersection.*

A: Overgrown landscaping that obstructs the sight distance of drivers is a violation of section 9.52.010 of the Municipal Code.

### Title 17 – Antennas

*Q: Is it true that I cannot have an exterior TV antenna?*

A: In residential areas exterior antennas are prohibited with the exception of an approved satellite dish, an approved amateur radio antenna or an exempt amateur radio antenna as outlined in Section 17.060.050



*Q: Do I need a permit to construct a storage shed in the rear of my property?*

A: Accessory buildings that are above the fence line or that are visible from the water require prior permit approval. Accessory buildings or structures located below the fence line and which are not visible from the water are exempt from permit requirements.

*Q: Do I need approval to remodel or repair my deck or fence?*

A: Most fences, decks, remodels and some repairs DO require zoning and building approval.

*Q: Is storage of RV's, boats, or disabled vehicles permitted on residential property?*

A: Storage of recreational vehicles, recreational vehicle equipment, boats, boat trailers, campers on private property is prohibited, except as regulated or approved by Chapter 17.64.

*Q: Do portable/temporary spas and/or swimming pools require permits?*

A: Any swimming pool, hot tub or spa may not be located closer than five feet from the rear or side lot line; heating/filter equipment shall not be closer than 5 feet from the property line.

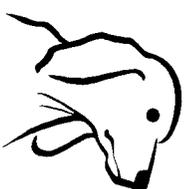
*Q: Are noise levels regulated?*

A: Chapter 17.68 (General Performance Standards) regulates noise levels by restricting to certain decibel limits.

### Title 6, Section 6.04.320 – Animal Control

*Q: Is there a maximum number of pets that I can keep in my home?*

A: No more than 2 dogs and 2 cats more than 6 months old may be kept in a residence at one time. It is not acceptable to raise bees, fowl, reptiles or other animals not specifically allowed.



### Title 15, Section 15.04 – Signs & Banners

*Q: Can I use my logo on my sign at a shopping center?*

A: Commercial developments and shopping centers each have their own specific sign guidelines. If your logo fits in with these guidelines it can be approved with a sign permit.

*Q: What is required for my organization to put up a banner for a race we are sponsoring?*

A: Banners and most temporary signs require a sign permit.

### Estero Municipal Improvement District Code – Title 6 & 8

*Q: Is it legal for my neighbor to empty his radiator in the street in front of his house?*

A: Anything that is dumped in the street goes into the storm drainage system, which is part of our lagoon waterways, which discharges into San Francisco Bay. No waste materials of any kind (organic or inorganic) shall be dumped into any water course or upon any public property.

*Q: My I use my hose to wash down my house and clean my sidewalks?*

A: It is always a good idea to conserve one of our most precious resources, water. Nonessential uses of water during a water shortage emergency is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the district.