

Hillsboro Municipal Code[Up](#) [Previous](#) [Next](#) [Main](#) [Collapse](#) [Search](#) [Print](#) [No Frames](#)[CHAPTER 6 HEALTH AND WELFARE](#)**Subchapter 6.24 NOISE**

6.24.010 Unnecessary noise

It is unlawful for any person to make, assist in making, allow or perpetuate the continuance of any unauthorized, disturbing or unnecessary noise.

6.24.020 Sound measurement

A. Sound measurements are not required for the enforcement of this subchapter. Should measurements be made they must be made with a sound level meter that:

1. Is in good operating condition, meeting the requirements of a Type I or Type II meter;
2. Contains at least an A-weighted scale and both fast and slow meter response capability; and
3. Is located at or within the boundaries of property on which a noise sensitive building that is not the source of the sound is located.

B. If sound measurements are made, the person making those measurements must have completed training using the sound level meter and use procedures consistent with the training.

6.24.030 Noise limits

Unless authorized by the manager, it is unlawful for any person to produce or allow to be produced, with or from a sound-producing source, sound that:

- A. Exceeds:
1. 50 decibels A-weighting (dBA) at any time between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following day, or
 2. 60 dBA at any time between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.; or
- B. Is plainly audible at any time between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following day:
1. Within a noise-sensitive building which is not the source of sound, or
 2. On a public right-of-way from a distance of at least 100 feet from the source of the sound.

6.24.040 Specific noises

The following acts are a violation of this subchapter when the noise level exceeds those specified in HMC [6.24.030](#) unless exempt under HMC [6.24.050](#):

- A. Sounding of any horn, signal or other device on a motor vehicle, while in motion, except as a danger signal. Exhaust brakes may only be applied to stop or slow during an emergency;
- B. Use of sound-producing devices including musical instruments, loudspeakers, amplifying devices, public address systems, radios, television sets, computers and any other electronic devices that play back audio or audio video recordings;
- C. Operation of any gong or siren upon any vehicle, other than police, fire or other emergency vehicle, except during sanctioned parades;
- D. Use of any motor vehicle in such a condition or manner so as to create loud or unnecessary sounds, grating, grinding, rattling or other noise;
- E. Erection, excavation, demolition, alteration or repair of any building in or on property adjacent to a residential or business district between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. the next day, except in the case of urgent necessity in the interest of public safety with the appropriate permit from the manager. Such permit may be for no longer than three days or while the

emergency continues, which ever is less; and

F. Issuing of amplified sound in an outdoor facility except under all of the following conditions:

1. Sound levels at the perimeter of the facility do not exceed the maximum levels under this subchapter;
2. If the manager authorizes noise to exceed the limits under HMC [6.24.030](#), continued amplified sound may not be transmitted more than:
 - a. 50 minutes of each hour;
 - b. four hours of any eight-hour block of time during weekends; and
 - c. three hours between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. on weekdays; and
3. The manager may authorize community groups and activities to exceed the limitations of HMC [6.24.040\(F\)\(2\)\(b\)](#) and (c) if it is determined that it would serve the good of the community. Such authorization may be revoked for cause and without notice.

6.24.050 Exceptions

The following are exceptions to this subchapter:

- A. Sounds created by organized athletic or other group activities, when such activities are approved by a government entity and conducted on its property, such as stadiums, parks, streets, public plazas, schools, fair grounds, airports and athletic fields. These exceptions do not prohibit the manager from declaring a specific event or activity in violation of local, state or federal law;
- B. Sounds caused by emergency work, or by ordinary and accepted use of emergency equipment, vehicles and apparatus, regardless of whether such work is performed by a public or private agency, or upon public or private property;
- C. Sounds caused by bona fide use of emergency warning devices and alarm systems;
- D. Sounds regulated by federal law, including but not limited to sounds caused by railroads or aircraft;
- E. Sounds caused by demolition activities when performed under a permit issued by the appropriate governmental authorities;
- F. Sounds caused by industrial, agricultural or construction activities between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m., other than sounds regulated under HMC [6.24.050\(E\)](#) and that do not violate HMC [6.24.040\(E\)](#);
- G. Sounds caused by regular vehicular traffic upon premises open to the public;
- H. Sounds caused by air-, electric- or gas-driven domestic tools, including lawn mowers and edgers, radial arm, circular and table saws, and other similar lawn or construction tools, excluding tools used for vehicle repair, between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m., Monday through Friday and between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday;
- I. Sounds caused by chainsaws, when used for pruning, trimming or cutting of live trees or private wood cutting, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., and not exceeding two hours in any 24 hour period; and
- J. Sounds caused by non-amplified human voices.

6.24.060 Interference in reception

- A. Operation or use by any person of any electrical, mechanical or other device that causes interference with radio or television receivers of good engineering design is prohibited.
- B. This section does not prohibit the use or operation of any such device when necessary for the protection of life or property, for the care or treatment of sick or injured persons, or for the operation of a public utility.

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