

How can I report a suspected violation?

Suspected violations of this code can be reported to the Code Enforcement Department in several ways: phone, website, fax or in person.

- 10119 Windhorst Rd.
Tampa, FL 33619
- 410 South East 30th St
Ruskin, FL 33570
- **813-274-6600** Main line
- **813-274-6691** Fax

www.hillsboroughcounty.org/hcce

Reporting a suspected violation after hours?

Now you can report a violation seven days a week from 7 a.m. –11:00 p.m. By calling the InfoLine

272-5900

CODE ENFORCEMENT TIP OF THE MONTH is a monthly e-newsletter by the Hillsborough County Code Enforcement Department. If you have comments, or if you wish to receive this newsletter via e-mail, call 813-274-6675 or e-mail greenkj@hillsboroughcounty.org



Inoperable Vehicles



Hillsborough County's Minimum Standards Ordinance requires that all properties be kept free from certain conditions which degrade from the health, safety, and/or welfare of Hillsborough County's citizens. Among these conditions are overgrowth, accumulations of junk, trash and/or debris, inoperable vehicles, and improperly secured swimming pools. In this edition we will focus on inoperable vehicles and the common questions associated with this type of nuisance.

Q What is an inoperable vehicle?

While the answer to this question would seem obvious, it is often misunderstood what vehicles the Code allows us to contend with. The Hillsborough County Minimum Code defines an inoperable vehicle as one which "is in a state of disrepair and or incapable of being moved under its own power". Vehicles which are untagged or have simply sat in one place for an extended period of time may not necessarily meet this definition. The intent of this prohibition is to prevent junk and dilapidated vehicles from having a negative impact on the community.



Q Why are inoperable vehicles considered to be a violation?

Inoperable vehicles typically leak fluids such as anti-freeze, gasoline, and other automotive fluids onto the ground contaminating the local area. These vehicles also create an attractive nuisance to children by presenting an enticing, but dangerous, play thing. There are several documented incidents of children becoming locked inside a vehicle and succumbing to the extreme temperatures produced within the vehicle. Inoperative vehicles also detract from the neighborhoods appearance and invite an undesirable element into your community.

Q What about my hobby car?

Vehicles which are kept within a completely enclosed structure are not considered a violation by Hillsborough County Code.

Q Can I remain anonymous when registering a complaint?

Yes. We do not require that you provide any personal information when registering your complaint. Remember that all information you choose to provide to the County, including names, phone numbers, or email addresses, is subject to the Public Record Laws. In other words, we must provide this information to anyone who asks for it.

If you wish to remain completely anonymous, do not provide your personal information.



Q What do I do if I've received a notice of violation?

If you have any questions about what is required of you to achieve compliance with Hillsborough County's Code, please contact the Investigator assigned to your case. The Investigator's name is listed at the bottom of the notice you received. The goal of Code Enforcement is to preserve the quality and value of public and private property, and maintain a high standard of living by eliminating conditions that threaten the life, health, safety, and general welfare of the public. The department recognizes that this goal is most effectively achieved through the education of, and cooperation with, the citizens of Hillsborough County.