

March 2008

Accumulations



Hillsborough County's Minimum Code, which regulates the maintenance of private properties, prohibits the accumulation of conditions such as, but not limited to, old, dilapidated or abandoned: scrap or metal, paper, building materials and equipment, bottles, glass, appliances, furniture, rags, rubber, or motor vehicles, and parts thereof. This requirement is meant to keep properties free from physical conditions which may pose a hazard to the surrounding community or to inquisitive children.

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

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.



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Q How much is too much?

When determining whether or not a violation exists on a property, Code Enforcement must make an objective decision based on the overall condition of the property. The intent of Hillsborough County's Minimum Code is to "secure the public safety, health and general welfare of the citizens of Hillsborough County". To that end, the investigator must weigh the physical conditions of the property with the extent of the impact of that intent. While a few scraps of paper may not give cause to an official notice of violation, any accumulation which could potentially impact public health, safety, or welfare will be addressed accordingly.



Q When can I expect a property to be cleaned after a complaint has been made?

The responsibility of cleaning a property, or correcting any other Code violation, rests with the property owner and any other person contributing to the violation. When it is determined that a violation exists, the violator will be notified, and instructed on what must be done to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected, the case will be referred for a hearing before the Code Enforcement Board. Upon failure to comply with the order of compliance, a fine, which accrues daily for each day the violations continue to exist, will be assessed against all of the violator's properties as a lien. Once a fine has continued to accumulate for 90 days, the matter is forwarded to the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office where further action may be taken.



CODE ENFORCEMENT TIP OF THE MONTH

A monthly e-newsletter by the
Hillsborough County Code Enforcement.
Suggest topics and send comments to
greenkj@hillsboroughcounty.org
or call (813) 274-6675.



Suspected violations can be reported in several ways:

- Online www.hillsboroughcounty.org/hcce
- 10119 Windhorst Rd. • 410 SE 30th St.
Tampa, FL 33619 Ruskin, FL 33570
- 813-274-6600
- (813) 272-5900 7 days a week from 7:30 a.m.- 11:00 p.m.