

Effective March 20, 2010, Town residents and their service providers should observe new Quiet Hours.

TOCC Quiet Hours are somewhat more restrictive than County Quiet Hours, and operate in conjunction with the County Noise Ordinance limiting sound to specified decibel levels. (See information on TOCC website)

Use these SUMMARY timelines for quick reference.

WEEKDAYS:

CONSTRUCTION WORK	LANDSCAPE WORK
<p>QUIET HOURS 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.</p> <p>No construction activities</p> <p>No horns, back-up beepers, unless for emergency</p>	<p>QUIET HOURS 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Limited to non-powered tools, unless for emergency</p> <p>No horns, back-up beepers, unless for emergency</p>
<p>7:00 a.m.</p> <p>Construction activities may begin</p>	<p>8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Landscape activities using power equipment may begin</p>
<p>WORK HOURS 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>WORK HOURS 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Construction activities must end</p>	<p>7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>One piece of powered landscape equipment allowed</p>

WEEKENDS AND FEDERAL HOLIDAYS:

CONSTRUCTION WORK	LANDSCAPE WORK
<p>QUIET HOURS 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>No construction activities</p> <p>No horns, back-up beepers, unless for emergency</p>	<p>QUIET HOURS 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Limited to non-powered tools, unless for emergency</p> <p>No horns, back-up beepers, unless for emergency</p>
<p>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Construction activities may begin</p>	<p>9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Landscape activities using power equipment may begin</p>
<p>WORK HOURS 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>WORK HOURS 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Construction activities must end</p>	<p>7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Landscape activities using power equipment must end</p>

Frequently Asked Questions

1) *Who enforces noise laws?*

Both the County Noise Ordinance and the Town Noise Ordinance apply in the Town. The County's ordinance is based on restricting decibel levels. Read about the County ordinance here. The Town's ordinance is based on limiting the hours noise is permissible in the Town. Both the County and the Town enforce the noise laws.

2) *Who do I call when to report a noise complaint?*

During daytime hours, you would contact the County Department of Environmental Protection at 240-777-7700. During Town quiet hours, you would contact the Montgomery County Police non-emergency line at 301-279-8000. You would also send a Noise Complaint Form to the Town office so that staff can gather more information about noise issues in the Town. The complaint forms serve as a basis for enforcement.

3) *What time frame is to be expected for a response?*

Response time will vary. An officer will respond if there are resources available. Response time also depends on whether there is an off-duty police officer working in the Town when the call is made. The County police will serve as first responders to all noise complaints. Town staff will work with residents and contractors to gain compliance with the ordinance.

4) *When would a citation be issued from the Town?*

Citations may be issued to repeat offenders. A citation may be issued if a police officer witnesses a violation and/or if the County or Town receives written complaints from at least 2 witnesses, who are not residents at the same address, of a noise disturbance. The complainants must be willing to testify in court, if required.

5) *Does the Town require complaints from two people about a violation?*

The ordinance requires two written noise complaints to possibly issue a citation. Two complaints verify that there was in fact a violation of the noise ordinance. The person in violation of the noise control ordinance could be issued a warning instead of a fine absent two written complaints.

6) *Who is responsible for fines?*

The owner of the property and/or the contractor may be responsible.