

## Code Enforcement – Planning Division FAQs

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1. My neighbor always parks his vehicle on the grass. Is this a violation?

**Yes. Vehicles are strictly prohibited from parking in the required landscaped areas. ([SCCC 18.20.120\(b\)](#))**

2. My next door neighbor has a home business and is always dispatching employees from his house. Is this a code violation?

**Yes. Dispatching employees from a residence is strictly prohibited. ([SCCC 18.100.020](#))**

3. Every weekend my neighbor has a garage sale. Is this a violation?

**Yes. Garage sales are only allowed to occur once every 6 months. Additionally, there is a City wide garage sale where all citizens can participate. ([SCCC 18.100.202\(e\)](#))**

4. My neighbor built a shed in his back yard and it is two feet away from my fence. Does the shed require a permit and is there a setback requirement?

**Sheds that are 120 square feet or less do not require a building permit. All structures must maintain a setback of 3 feet from the side property line and 5 feet from the rear property. Sheds greater than 120 square feet must obtain a building permit from the Building Department. ([SCCC 18.66.020\(d\)](#) and UBC R105.2(1))**

5. My neighbor has an in home day care and has placed a banner advertising his business in a residential neighborhood. Is this permitted?

**In home day cares are permitted by the State of California, but banners advertising the business are regulated by the Santa Clara Municipal Code. Signs in residential districts are not permitted unless it pertains to the sale, lease or rental of the property upon which the sign is located. ([SCCC 18.80.200](#))**

6. My neighbor is constructing a new home and the construction workers begin work at 6:30 in the morning? Is this a violation?

**Yes. Construction hours are from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. Saturday construction hours are from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. \*No construction on Sundays or City observed holidays. However; property owners working on their own homes are exempt from the aforementioned restrictions. ([SCCC 9.10.230](#) and [9.10.240](#))**

7. My neighbor has placed a canopy in his driveway. Is this considered a violation?

**Yes. Temporary structures, including canopies are not permitted within the 20 foot yard setback area. ([SCCC 18.66.020](#))**

8. My next door neighbor has a boat in his driveway. Is he allowed to keep his boat on his driveway?

**Yes. Boats are permitted on driveways provided the boat fits in the driveway and does not encroach into the public right of way. ([SCCC 18.12.120](#))**

9. Is it a violation to have a rooster as a pet in a residential area?

**Yes. Roosters are strictly prohibited. ([SCCC 6.15.025](#))**

10. Is it lawful to post garage sale or other temporary signs on utility poles, street trees or street sign posts?

**No. Posting any signs on City property is prohibited. ([SCCC 18.80.030](#))**

11. Can I grow marijuana outdoors on my property?

**No. The outdoor cultivation of marijuana is prohibited. ([SCCC 18.102.020](#))**

12. Should I contact Code Enforcement about a vacant house?

**A vacant house is not a violation of any City code. However, if a home is vacant, open and accessible and is also being accessed by unauthorized persons, Code Enforcement can respond and ensure that the property is secured. Please contact the Santa Clara Police Department at 408-615-5580 if you see such illegal activity. ([SCCC 8.30.030\(g\)](#))**