



COUNTY OF LAKE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Code Enforcement Division Courthouse - 255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, California 95453 Telephone 707/263-2850 FAX 707/263-5843

Zoning Clearances are a must

“CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER”

If you are constructing a small or large structure such as a shed, carport, detached garage or, greenhouse this spring, a Zoning Clearance Permit is a must! “Structures” includes open-sided carports of metal, plastic, or canvass. Free-standing structures less than 200 square feet with no plumbing or electrical do not require a building permit. However, you must still get a zoning clearance permit from the Planning Division of Community Development. Why? There are issues of property line set backs, and lot coverage, that must be

considered prior to construction.



When applying for a Zoning Clearance Permit, bring a site plan that is drawn to scale, showing existing structures and proposed additions. If you have a septic system, be prepared to first get an approval from Lake County Environmental Health.

For the specific language of the Lake County Zoning

Ordinance, check:

<http://www.co.lake.ca.us/countygovernment/communitydevelopment/zoningord/zoning.asp>
ARTICLE 48 SEC. 21-48.1-4 ZONING CLEARANCE PERMIT.

In the event you have any questions regarding land use, please call the Lake County Planning Division at 263-2221 or visit us on the third floor of the Lake County Courthouse, 255 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport.

Code Enforcement Corner is a series of informational articles relating to Lake County Codes enforced by the Lake County Code Enforcement Division of the Lake County Community Development Department. Often County codes are similar to those in the incorporated cities. If you live in the incorporated cities and have questions, check with their Code Enforcement: City of Lakeport Code Enforcement at 263-3056 Ext. 7 and the City of Clearlake Code Enforcement at 994-8201 Ext. 115 or 118.





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VEHICLE ISSUES AND CODE VIOLATIONS ABANDONED AND PUBLIC NUISANCE VEHICLES

The County of Lake in conjunction with the Cities of Clearlake and Lakeport participate in a state-wide program to help rid our county of abandoned, inoperative, nuisance vehicles. Portions of these programs are funded by a \$1.00 charge added to your DMV renewal fees. Although the three jurisdictions operate their own abatement services, the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority oversees most of the operations according to state requirements.



Vehicles, trailers, and RVs left along the roadway are tagged with a ten (10) day notice and an attempt is made to notify the last registered legal owner and the owner of the property or adjacent property where the vehicle(s) are located by certified mail. This allows an additional period of time for removal of the vehicle(s). However, if the vehicle is inoperable, within travel lanes, or endangering public safety, it can be towed immediately and impounded.



The property owner or the registered owner has the option of removing the vehicle(s) within the allotted time or filing for a hearing to dispute the action of tagging the vehicle(s). If these options are not taken, Code Enforcement will have the vehicle(s) towed and impounded at the licensed County contracted dismantler's yard and then bill the owner for the removal costs plus administrative fees to claim their vehicle.

The storage of vehicles or any other materials on vacant property is illegal without an approved primary use. Unfortunately, there are properties where vehicles become collectors of cobwebs, dirt, eyesores to the neighborhood and a harbinger for rodents and insects. It is illegal to keep inoperative/ dismantled (no engine or battery, flat tire(s), on a jack), wrecked vehicles on any residential property in Lake County, per jurisdictional codes. If you have plans to restore that vehicle, or think the parts may be needed for another vehicle someday, it must be kept in an enclosed building.

To assist citizens eliminate vehicles they are willing to part with, Lake County has reinstated Vehicle Amnesty Days in cooperation with the California Highway Patrol. Owners can dispose of vehicles, extra batteries, and vehicle parts legally. RVs, buses, trailers, or vehicles over 1 ½ tons, extra tires, and garbage will not be accepted. Call 263-2309 for more information and to confirm Amnesty Days..

These non-running vehicles may be your treasures, but if you want to keep them from being removed to a dismantling yard, it is recommended that they be stored properly in an enclosed building out of public view.



For further information relating to the Vehicle Abatement Programs, please contact the Lake County Code Enforcement Division by email compliance@co.lake.ca.us, by phone 263-2309 or visit the office at the 3rd floor of the Lake County Courthouse, 255 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport, CA.

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