

# Guidelines for Neighbourhood Noise

## in the Shire of Kalamunda

There is state legislation controlling the level of noise to which you can be exposed. These laws also restrict the way certain noisy equipment can be used. If following speaking to your neighbour, the noise problem persists, you can lodge a formal complaint with the Shire's Health Service by completing the enclosed HIRF and returning it to us.

### Noisy Equipment on Residential Properties

Equipment like lawn mowers and trail bikes should be operated on residential properties for no more than two (2) hours between 7am and 7pm on Monday to Saturday or 9am and 7pm on a Sundays or public holidays.

Musical instruments may be used for no more than 1 hour each day between 7am and 7pm on Monday to Saturday or 9am and 7pm on a Sunday or public holiday.



### Construction Sites

Noise from construction sites does not have to comply with the permitted noise levels where the equipment is the quietest reasonably available and where the noise occurs between 7am and 7pm on any day which is not a Sunday or public holiday. Where work occurs that is outside of these times, it is generally best to contact the builder concerned.

### Noise from Animals and Pets

Noise from pets such as roosters, peacocks and cockatoos can be equally disruptive in residential areas. Unlike barking dogs, which are controlled by the Dog Act, noise from other pets must comply with certain set noise levels as are other noise sources.

Generally owners of roosters, peacocks and cockatoos can eliminate noisy mornings by keeping the cages inside or covered with a dark, close-weave cloth in the morning.

Roosters and peacocks may also be kept quiet by keeping them overnight in a box or cage which allows them to comfortably stand, but does not allow them to extend their neck to crow.



## Stereos, Pool Pumps, Air Conditioners and Other Noise Sources

Other noise sources on residential properties such as stereos, pool pumps and air-conditioners can be equally disruptive in residential areas. Noise from these sources is required to be within set noise levels.

Approaching your neighbour if they have equipment that is disturbing you may assist you to negotiate a way of reducing the impact of this noise on your property.

## Community Activities and Noise

Some occasional community activities are not bound to meet noise restrictions, including:

- noise from spectators at a sporting activity;
- noise from calls to worship (eg. church bells) or associated with divine worship;
- noise from recreational or educational activities; and
- noise from agricultural shows, fairs, fetes and similar events.

Where a community event is likely to exceed the reasonable noise levels set by legislation, the organising committee may apply to Council for permission to exceed that noise level. However, monitoring requirements and a maximum permitted level of noise may still be applied.

## Vehicle Movements and Traffic Noise

Noise associated with motor vehicles and traffic on the road, aircraft and train noise are not bound by the noise regulations. Similarly, if a machine has a safety warning device fitted and it is not practicable to reduce the volume of the warning, noise from these devices are not bound by these noise restrictions.

Where noise creates a problem, the quickest and easiest solution is generally to approach the owner of the property that is the source of the noise. This provides you the opportunity to negotiate a solution with your neighbour, and gives your neighbour the opportunity to fix the problem.

When approaching your neighbour regarding neighbourhood noise doesn't work, formal investigation of the noise may be requested by completing a Shire of Kalamunda Health Investigation Request Form, which may be obtained from the Shire Administration Centre.

**Further information can be obtained from the Shire of Kalamunda Health Service on 9257 9813.**

