



Snohomish County  
 Planning and Development Services  
 Code Enforcement Division

Rev Sep 2021

PDS Code Enforcement responds to citizen complaints about code violations in **unincorporated** Snohomish County for **Planning & Development Services only**. What type of code violations do we investigate? Some of the most common are building and clearing/grading without permits, work in critical areas, illegal businesses, and junkyard conditions. Look at the table below for an expanded list of common complaints that we receive and what departments or agencies handle them.

## Good to Know

**Code Enforcement works in the field. We're not always available in the office.**

If you have questions about our process or need to file a complaint, use the table below. If you have received a letter from Code Enforcement, need to speak with the Officer handling your case, have questions about an invoice or monetary penalties, please contact your assigned [Code Enforcement Officer](#) directly to **schedule an appointment**.

## Common Complaints

### How to use this list

Use this alphabetical list to determine which department or agency handles your concern. Links to online complaints forms and other helpful resources are included. *The referral links are provided as a courtesy only. Please contact the recommended agency or department directly if you have questions or need additional assistance.*

*For Unincorporated Snohomish County Only*

<p><b>Is my complaint in <u>unincorporated</u> Snohomish County?</b>          Before filing your investigation request, <b>verify</b> that the violation address is within our jurisdiction for enforcement.</p>	<p>Address/parcel online tools:  <a href="#">PDS Map Portal</a>  <a href="#">Property Summary Search</a>  <a href="#">Assessor's Office Mapping FAQ</a>          Assessor's Office: 425-388-3433</p>
<p><b>City Code Enforcement</b>          If the address of the violation is <b>not</b> within <b>unincorporated</b> Snohomish County, it may be under the jurisdiction of one of these cities.</p>	<p><a href="#">Arlington</a>   360-403-3551  <a href="#">Bothell</a>   425-806-6400  <a href="#">Brier</a>   425-775-5440          Darrington   360-436-1131  <a href="#">Edmonds</a>   425-775-2525</p>

	<a href="#">Everett</a>   425-257-8700 <a href="#">Gold Bar</a>   360-793-1101 <a href="#">Granite Falls</a>   360-691-6441 Index   (360) 793-2488 <a href="#">Lake Stevens</a>   425-622-9400 <a href="#">Lynnwood</a>   425-670-5420 <a href="#">Marysville</a>   360-363-8379 <a href="#">Mill Creek</a>   425-551-7254 <a href="#">Monroe</a>   360-863-4553 <a href="#">Mountlake Terrace</a>   425-670-8260 <a href="#">Mukilteo</a>   (425) 263-8000 <a href="#">Snohomish</a>   360-568-3115 <a href="#">Stanwood</a>   360-454-5208 <a href="#">Sultan</a>   360-793-2272 <a href="#">Tulalip Tribes</a>   360-716-4242 <a href="#">Woodway</a>   206-542-4443
--	--

## Alphabetical List

*Where to report your complaint*

Abandoned or parked cars, RV's, trailers, or other vehicles on the <b>side of the road, in the ROW, or on the street.</b>	Report to <b>Sno Co Sheriff's Office</b> online: <a href="#">Parking &amp; Traffic Complaints</a> <i>*If the incident is occurring now, call 911</i>  <b>Sheriff's Non-Emergency</b> line   425-407-3999
Airport/airplane noise and low-flying aircraft	Report to: <a href="#">Harvey Airfield</a>   360-568-1541 <a href="#">Paine Field</a>   425-388-5125
Air Quality	Report to: <b>Puget Sound Clean Air Agency</b>   800-552-3565 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Asbestos</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Business - visible emission</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Dust nuisance</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Gasoline station nozzle leak</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Odor nuisance</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Residential chimney smoke</a></li> </ul>
Animals and wildlife	Report to: <b>Sno Co Animal Services</b>   425-388-3440 <a href="#">Report a barking dog or other animal nuisance</a>  <a href="#">Report neglect, animals at large, or dangerous animals</a>  <a href="#">Animal Services FAQ</a>

	<p><b>Dept of Fish &amp; Wildlife</b>   360-902-2936 Option 1  <a href="#">Nuisance Wildlife</a>  <a href="#">Habitat Recovery/Protection</a></p>
Appeals – Code Enforcement violation appeals	<p><b>Do not submit your appeal to Code Enforcement.</b>  Please follow the instructions on the <b>back</b> of the Notice of Violation carefully.</p> <p><i>Appeals must be submitted to:</i>  Snohomish County Planning and Development Services  <b>Attention: Appeals</b>  3000 Rockefeller Ave, M/S 604  Everett, WA 98201</p>
Basketball hoops or other obstructions (overgrown bushes, etc.) <b>on sidewalk</b>	<p>Report to <b>Road Maintenance</b>   425-388-7500</p> <p>For obstructions <b>in the street blocking access</b>, call 911.</p>
Building code questions	Contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>
Building or construction <b>without permits</b>	<p><a href="#">FAQ</a>  <a href="#">Permit Exemptions</a></p> <p><b>Do they have a permit? Do I need a permit?</b> Contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p> <p>Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p>
Burning and Smoke - outdoor ( <b>unincorporated</b> Sno County only)	<p>During <b>burn bans</b>, report to <b>Puget Sound Clean Air Agency</b> hotline at 800-595-4341</p> <p>Add'l resources and info for outdoor burning, contact <a href="#">PSCAA</a></p> <p>Burn bans enacted by <b>DNR</b> for wildfire concerns and other information, visit <a href="#">DNR Burn Portal</a></p> <p>Report to local <a href="#">Fire Dept</a></p> <p>Snohomish County <a href="#">Burn Permits</a></p>
Businesses - illegal residential businesses and home occupations	<p>See <a href="#">Assistance Bulletin #10</a></p> <p>For <b>code or permitting</b> questions, contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p> <p>Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p>

Clearing and grading/land disturbing activities <b>without permits</b>	See <a href="#">Permit Exemptions</a> and <a href="#">FAQ</a>  For <b>permit verification, code, and permitting</b> questions, contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>  Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Code, permitting, zoning, setback, building and land use code, permit status, allowable use, etc. questions	<a href="#">Assistance Bulletins</a> <a href="#">Permit Exemptions</a> <a href="#">FAQ</a>  For more detailed <b>code or permitting</b> information, contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>
Code Enforcement – PDS Code Enforcement for <b>unincorporated</b> Snohomish County only	See <i>Enforcement</i>
Construction – complaints about residential or commercial construction projects that <b>have current permits/inspections</b>	Call 425-388-3311 and ask to speak with the <b>assigned inspector</b> for that project.  <b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does <b>not</b> handle complaints against properties with current permits.</i></b>
COVID-19 violations by individuals, groups, or businesses	Report to <a href="#">WA State</a>
Critical Area violations (flood hazard, shoreline)	Critical area <b>code and permitting questions</b> —contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>  Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Dangerous Building Conditions – unsecured or broken windows and doors	Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Dispute Resolution and Mediation – neighbors, neighborhood, and landlord/tenant disputes	Contact <b>Volunteers of America</b>   425-259-3191 <a href="#">Mediation</a> <a href="#">Dispute Resolution Center</a>
Drainage	Report drainage issues online to Conservation and Natural Resources <a href="#">Surface Water Management</a>   425-388-3464  <b>For diverting water</b> to an <b>adjacent</b> property only—report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Driveways, access roads - building or filling in right-of-way or creating a new access or driveway <b>without permits</b>	<b>Code and permitting questions</b> —contact <a href="#">Ask a Permit Tech</a>  Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>

Drugs or suspicious activity	Report to <b>Sno Co Sheriff's Office</b> <a href="#">Drug Task Force</a>
Dumping	Report to: In or near a <b>body of water</b> , call 425-388-6481 to reach Conservation and Natural Resources <b>Surface Water Management</b> Division Water Quality Hotline.  Adjacent to a <b>roadway</b> , call 425-388-7500 to reach the County's <b>Road Maintenance</b> Division.  On <b>public or private property</b> , call 425-339-5250 to reach <b>Snohomish Health District</b> .
Easements – disputes, someone using your easement, disputes about private roads or property lines	Civil Issue— <b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle civil matters</i></b>  Property documents – visit <a href="#">Auditor's Office</a> online
<p>Enforcement - PDS Code Enforcement process, team directory, FAQ, and complaint forms.</p> <p><b>Good to Know:</b> <i>Code Enforcement works in the field. We're not always available in the office. If you have been assigned a Code Enforcement Officer and need to speak with them in person, please call them to <b>schedule an appointment</b>. For other questions, please visit our <a href="#">website</a> or call 425-388-3650.</i></p>	<p><b>Complaints:</b> All complaints must be submitted using our Investigation Request form. <b>We are not able to accept or process complaints by phone, email, or fax due to disclosure laws and the public records retention rules and procedures.</b> Complaints that are not submitted using our form cannot be processed.</p> <p><b>FAQ</b> - See <a href="#">Assistance Bulletin #51</a></p> <p>Report <b>violations</b> online to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p> <p><b>No Computer?</b> If you don't have access to a computer, please <a href="#">download the form</a> or call 425-388-3650 and leave us a voicemail with your name and address. We'll send you a complaint form that you can <b>mail</b> back to us.</p> <p><b>Letter or Notice of Violation</b> If you have received a letter or violation notice, please contact your assigned <a href="#">Code Enforcement Officer</a> directly.</p> <p><b>General Code Enforcement Questions &amp; Coordinator:</b> 425-388-3650</p> <p><a href="#">Code Enforcement Team</a></p> <p><b>Code Enforcement <a href="#">Website</a></b></p>

Fences	<p>Civil Issue – <b>spite fences</b>, fence <b>location</b> disputes and <b>property line</b> disputes.</p> <p><b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle civil matters</i></b></p> <p><a href="#">Fence Permits</a></p> <p>Fence <a href="#">Code Questions</a></p>
Forest practices - <b>DNR</b> (harvesting timber, building or repairing forest roads or culverts, thinning your forest, or other forest practices)   <b>County</b> (Class IV permits)	<p>See <a href="#">Dept of Natural Resources</a>   (360) 856-3500 Check <a href="#">FPA permits</a></p> <p><b>Snohomish County</b> See <a href="#">Assistance Bulletin #92</a> (Class IV Forest Practices – General Permit)</p> <p><b>Code and permitting questions</b>—contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p>
Garbage and trash	<p>Report to <a href="#">Snohomish Health District for:</a></p> <p>Uncontained putrescible garbage or excessive amounts of animal waste that attracts flies or rodents</p> <p>Illegal dumping on private or public property without the owner's permission</p> <p>Burning of non-vegetative materials (<i>can also be reported to local <a href="#">Fire Dept</a></i>)</p> <p>Improper hazardous waste storage</p> <p>Snohomish Health District   425-339-5200</p>
Graffiti	<p>Civil Issue—<b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle civil matters</i></b></p>
Hazardous or dangerous spills, leaking tanks	<p>Report to <a href="#">Dept of Ecology</a>   1-800-645-7911</p> <p>If near water, report to Conservation and Natural Resources <a href="#">Surface Water Management</a></p>
Homeless encampments, squatters	<p>Report to Sheriff's <a href="#">Office of Neighborhoods</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Junk</a>, junkyard conditions on <b>private property only</b></p> <p>See <b>Dumping</b> above for illegal dumping on public or private property, near/adjacent to water, or on roadway.</p>	<p>Definition of "<a href="#">junk</a>"</p> <p>Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p>

Landlord/Tenant disputes (including complaints about repairs or issues with the building, house, or apartment)	Report to <b>Landlord/Tenant’s Union</b> at 425-339-1335  Additional <a href="#">Resources</a>  <a href="#">VOAA Dispute Resolution Center</a>
Light - bright light or light pollution	<b>Residential</b> Civil Issue— <b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle civil matters</i></b>  <b>Commercial/Business</b> Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Mobile homes, illegal placement	See <a href="#">Assistance Bulletin #36</a>  <b>Mobile home code or permitting questions--contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></b>  Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Mold, pollution, or other environmental health issues	See <a href="#">Snohomish Health District</a> for resources and referrals
Noise— <b>public disturbance noise</b> (construction noise, heavy machinery or truck noise, fireworks, revving engines, barking dogs, loud neighbors and music, car exhaust noise, etc.)	Call the <b>Sheriff’s Office Non-Emergency</b> line at 425-407-3999  <b><a href="#">Allowable Daytime Hours:</a></b> "Day" or "daytime," for the purposes of this chapter, means the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on weekdays and between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on weekends.  Definition of <a href="#">public disturbance noise</a>
Noxious Weeds	Report to <a href="#">Noxious Weed Control Board</a>  <b>Noxious Weed <a href="#">Information</a></b>
Overgrown yards, bushes, and landscaping ( <i>see above for noxious weeds</i> )	Civil Issue— <b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle civil matters</i></b>
Parking ( <b>on side of street or on street</b> ), in fire lanes on <i>County roads</i> , or traffic complaints is handled by the <b><u>Sheriff’s Office</u></b>	Report parking on side of street/on street and in fire lanes on County roads to <b>Sno Co Sheriff’s Office <a href="#">Parking &amp; Traffic Complaints</a></b>  For parking in fire lanes on a <b><i>private road within a development only</i></b> , report to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>

Permits – Do they have a permit? Permit status and other permitting questions	<a href="#">Assistance Bulletins</a> <a href="#">Permit Exemptions</a> <a href="#">FAQ</a>  <b>Do they have a permit?</b> Use our <a href="#">PDS Map Portal</a> to see <i>permits by property address</i>  For more detailed <b>code and permitting</b> information, contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>
Property line, easement, and private road disputes	Civil Issue— <b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle civil matters</i></b>
<b>Public</b> road maintenance issues	Report to Public Works <a href="#">Road Maintenance</a>   425-388-7500
Retaining walls, without permits	See Retaining Walls <a href="#">Assistance Bulletin #40</a>  Retaining wall <b>code questions and permitting</b> —contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>  Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Right-of-Way - <b>structures</b> in the right-of-way, including signs, fences, retaining walls, landscaping, etc.	Report to Public Works <a href="#">Right-of-Way</a>   425-388-6453
Road flooding/drainage/water on the road	Report to Public Works <a href="#">Road Maintenance</a>   425-388-7500
Rodents and pests	See <a href="#">Snohomish Health District</a> for resources and referrals  <b><i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle complaints about rodents or pests</i></b>
RV's (recreational vehicles) and travel trailers - occupied or multiple RV's on property	See RV <a href="#">Assistance Bulletin #53</a>  <b>RV code questions</b> —contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a>  Report <b>violations</b> to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a>
Septic systems – code questions, permits, complaints  <b>Note: <i>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle complaints about any aspect of septic systems or septic permits.</i></b>	<b>Permitting and complaints</b> —report/contact <a href="#">Snohomish Health District</a>   425-339-5200
Sidewalks – overgrown bushes or trees obstructing the sidewalk, other obstructions on sidewalk	Report to <b>Road Maintenance</b> at 425-388-7500



Setback - building setback violations	<p><b>Setback, zoning, and permitting questions</b>—contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p> <p>Report violations to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p>
Signs, illegally placed or oversize commercial signs ( <i>not parking or street signs</i> )	<p><b>Commercial sign code and permitting questions</b>—contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p> <p>Report violations to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p>
Storm drains – illegal connection, maintenance, drainage, and more	Contact/report to Conservation and Natural Resources <a href="#">Surface Water Management</a>   425-388-3464
Street lights—outages	Report to <a href="#">PUD</a>   425-783-1000
Traffic signals, street signs, and more	See Sno Co <b>Public Works Roads</b> <a href="#">FAQ</a>   425-388-6420
Trees – hazardous trees, tree code and permitting questions	<p>See <a href="#">Hazardous Trees Assistance Bulletin #52</a></p> <p>Hazardous tree or tree <b>code and permitting questions</b>--contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p> <p><i><b>PDS Code Enforcement does not handle complaints or questions about hazardous trees</b></i></p>
Trespassing—criminal trespassing, someone doing work on your property without your permission	Report to <a href="#">Sno Co Sheriff's Office</a>
Water quality – turbid discharge, oil or chemical spills to surface waters or storm drains, and sewage or manure discharges to surface waters	<p>Report to Conservation and Natural Resources <a href="#">Surface Water Management</a>   425-388-3464</p> <p>Report to WA State <a href="#">Dept of Ecology</a>   1-800-645-7911</p>
Water retention or runoff, retention ponds	Report to Conservation and Natural Resources <a href="#">Surface Water Management</a>   425-388-3464
Water Withdrawal – use of surface water for irrigation or other uses	Report to WA State <a href="#">Dept of Ecology</a>   1-800-645-7911
Zoning Violations	<p><b>Zoning code and permitting questions</b>—contact <a href="#">Ask Permit Tech</a></p> <p>Report violations to <a href="#">PDS Code Enforcement</a></p>



## Snohomish County PDS Code Enforcement Team

**Good to Know:** Code Enforcement works in the field. We're not always available in the office. If you have been assigned a Code Enforcement Officer and need to speak with them in person, please call them to **schedule an appointment**. For other questions, please visit our [website](#) or call 425-388-3650.

### [Code Enforcement Team](#)

### Code Enforcement [Website](#)

FAQ - See [Assistance Bulletin #51](#)

### [Online Complaint Form](#)

Download [Complaint Form](#)

### Download **Who to Call**

Common Complaints and who handles them.

**General Code Enforcement Questions & Coordinator:**  
425-388-3650

### **Letter, invoice, or Notice of Violation**

If you have received correspondence from our team, please contact your assigned [Code Enforcement Officer](#) noted in the letter. If you need assistance, call 425-388-3650.

### Complaints

- All complaints must be submitted using our Investigation Request form.
- **We are not able to accept or process complaints by phone, email, or fax due to disclosure laws and the public records retention rules and procedures.**
- Complaints that are not submitted using our form cannot be processed.
- An **exact street address** or parcel number is required.
- Submit one complaint per address/parcel number.

### No Computer?

If you don't have access to a computer, please [download the form](#) or call 425-388-3650 and leave us a voicemail with your name and address. We'll send you a complaint form that you can **mail** back to us.