



Nuisance Fact Sheet

A nuisance is defined by city code to include any of the following:

- 1. The growth of weeds or grass to a height of 18 inches or more within 150 feet of any structure or 125 feet of a highway right of way.**
- 2. Maintaining or permitting to be maintained kudzu, honeysuckle, ivy or any other woody or vine-type plant upon any premises, including vacant lots or land, when such plant grows beyond the bounds of said premises so as to be entwined in fences, buildings, trees, public utilities or onto any other property.**
- 3. Maintaining or permitting to be maintained any premises including vacant lots or land, except within a carport or completely enclosed building, upon which grass, weeds, undergrowth, trash, garbage, offal, stagnant water, building materials, glass, wood, household appliances, tools, inoperative lawn care equipment, broken inoperative or discarded furniture or other household equipment, packing boxes, discarded clothing, junk metal, automobile parts, tires, inoperative boats, motorized equipment or machinery, building materials or other matter deleterious to good health and public sanitation which is permitted or caused to accumulate in any manner which is or may become a nuisance or cause injury to the health or welfare of residents or the public in the vicinity or causing injury to neighboring property.**
- 3. Any accumulation of animal or vegetable matter that is offensive by virtue of odors or vapors; that is inhabited by rats, mice, snakes or vermin of any kind; or that is or may be dangerous or prejudicial to the public health.**
- 4. Any accumulation of solid wastes not in compliance with this article or any other ordinance.**
- 5. An open well.**
- 6. An accumulation of stagnant water such as to accommodate or encourage its inhabitation by mosquitoes in any stage of maturity.**
- 7. Any condition actually or potentially detrimental to the public health that violates the rules and regulations of the county health department.**
- 8. Any animal or accumulation of animal waste or excrement that is offensive by virtue of odors or vapors that interfere with an abutting occupant's peaceful use and employment of the abutting property.**
- 9. Abandoned structures that:
Are a health or safety hazard as a result of the attraction of insects, rodents, conditions creating a fire hazard, dangerous conditions constituting a threat to children, or frequent use by vagrants as living quarters, or the absence of sanitary facilities, shall be repaired, closed, or demolished.
It shall be unlawful for the owner of an abandoned structure to allow the same to become or to remain a health or safety hazard as defined in this section.**



The city code requires staff to give the offender at least 15 days to abate the nuisance prior to enforcement action. The time period for compliance varies depending on the particulars of the case, the incidence of appeals, and the availability of contractors.

The city may abate certain nuisances not corrected by the owners of property at their expense and may attach liens for unpaid expenses to all properties owned by the offender in the city's jurisdiction except their primary residence.

**For more information or to report a violation, please contact:
City of Shelby Code Enforcement Officers
City Hall Annex, 315 South Lafayette St.
704-484-6829**