



NEIGHBOURHOOD NOISE

The *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* specify allowable sound levels that should not be exceeded. These sound levels vary dependant on the time of the day and the day of the week. Noise can be described as unwanted sound and may be considered "unreasonable" when it exceeds these sound levels.

Examples of neighbourhood noise sources that commonly create unreasonable noise are:

Stereo Music	Power Tools	Pool/Spa Pumps
Parties	Construction Sites	Pool Cleaners
Musical Instruments	Air Conditioning Units	Security Alarms

If you are experiencing a noise concern the first step is to locate the noise source. If a neighbour is creating the noise, all that may be required to resolve the matter is a friendly approach towards your neighbour. However, if you cannot resolve the matter or feel uncomfortable approaching your neighbour, please contact the City of Armadale to have the matter investigated by an Environmental Health Officer.

STEREO MUSIC

Music with a dominant bass component can create a noise disturbance and should therefore be kept to a minimum. As a guide, music that is clearly audible at the boundary of a property is likely to exceed the allowable sound levels. Stereo music is required to comply with the allowable sound levels of the Regulations at all times.

PARTIES

It is expected that residents will host the occasional party. A "one-off" party may be reasonable providing consideration is given to the neighbours. If you are planning to entertain outside, please consider these suggestions to avoid a strained relationship with your neighbours:

- Start your party earlier so that it can finish earlier.
- Avoid using speakers outside the house.
- Let your neighbours know about the party and the time you expect to finish.
- Minimise music volume and especially the bass level.

If the party is likely to finish late at night, move your guests indoors and close all doors and windows.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The playing of a single musical instrument on residential premises is permitted to exceed the allowable sound levels, providing the instrument is played in a reasonable manner and for no more than one (1) hour per day between the hours of:

- **7am and 7pm on Monday to Saturday**
- **9am and 7pm on Sunday and Public Holidays**

Band practice in residential areas is prohibited and an alternative location should be used.

CONSTRUCTION NOISE

Noisy construction work is only permitted between 7:00am and 7:00pm Monday to Saturday. Construction work on Sundays and Public Holidays is prohibited unless a noise management plan has been submitted and approved.

AIR CONDITIONING UNITS

Before installing an air conditioning unit it is important to consider whether the location is likely to have an unreasonable impact on your neighbour. The City may be able to require relocation or a noisy air conditioner or modification to reduce the noise if necessary.

SPECIFIED EQUIPMENT

Some types of noisy equipment used in residential premises are able to exceed allowable noise levels provided they are used in a reasonable manner for no more than 2 hours per day. They include any equipment that requires the constant attendance of an operator for normal use, such as power tools, lawn mowers and pool cleaners.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

Other equipment such as pool pumps, refrigerators and security alarms can also cause annoyance and must be operated in compliance with permitted noise levels. Contact the City's Health Service if you require additional information.

DO YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION?

Should you require any further information regarding neighbourhood noise, please contact one of the City's Environmental Health Officers on 9399 0111.

Please note this information sheet is intended as a guide only. Should you wish to view a copy of the relevant legislation (*Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*) you may visit the following web site:

State Law Publishers - www.slp.wa.gov.au.