

## CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

The Athens-Clarke County Code Enforcement Division (previously known as the Community Protection Division) is a division of the Athens-Clarke County Building Permits and Inspections Department

Code Enforcement enforces local ordinances, property maintenance codes, and construction codes and is responsible for code compliance and enforcement.

### REPORT CODE VIOLATIONS

Residents and visitors have the right to report code violations and are encouraged to do so.



Reports may be made by telephone or in person to the Code Enforcement Division, an Athens-Clarke County Commissioner, the Public Information Office, or the Clerk of Commission. Reports can be anonymous.

### VIEW ORDINANCES

The entire Code of Athens-Clarke County that contains all local ordinances is available for viewing at the Clerk of Commission's Office (City Hall, 301 College Avenue) and on the Athens-Clarke County website at [www.athensclarkecounty.com/code](http://www.athensclarkecounty.com/code).



Updated March 2017

## HELPFUL NUMBERS

**Building Inspections & Permits Department**  
706-613-3520

**Finance Department**  
(Business Occupation Tax & Permits)  
706-613-3050

**Clarke County Health Department,**  
**Environmental Division**  
706-583-2658

**Clerk of Commission**  
706-613-3031

**Code Enforcement Division**  
706-613-3790

**Fire Department**  
(Fire Marshal & Fire Permits)  
706-613-3360

**Municipal Court**  
706-613-3690

**Planning Department**  
(Planning & Zoning)  
706-613-3515

**Police Department**  
706-613-3330

**Public Information Office**  
706-613-3795

**Public Utilities Department**  
706-613-3470

**Solid Waste Department**  
(Garbage, Recycling, Leaf & Limb)  
706-613-3501

**Transportation & Public Works Department**  
706-613-3440

## Helpful Ordinance Information for Athens-Clarke County Residents



### Athens-Clarke County Code Enforcement Division

120 W. Dougherty Street  
Athens, GA 30601

706-613-3790

706-613-3792 (Fax)

[www.athensclarkecounty.com/ced](http://www.athensclarkecounty.com/ced)  
[ced@athensclarkecounty.com](mailto:ced@athensclarkecounty.com)

## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE ORDINANCES?

The Code Enforcement Division of the Building Inspection & Permits Department enforces local ordinances, property maintenance codes, and construction codes. These ordinances generate the most questions from the public.

### **CURBSIDE TRASH CANS [Ord. 5-2-14]**

Store receptacles behind or adjacent to a residence or otherwise screen them from view of the public right of way, except for on scheduled collection days.



### **UNLAWFUL DUMPING [Ord. 5-2-14(j)]**

Depositing or causing to be deposited any solid waste, hazardous waste, banned materials, construction or demolition debris, leaf and limb material, or recyclable materials upon any street, right-of-way, alley or other public or private property is not allowed.



### **LITTERING [Ord. 3-12-18 – 3-12-20]**

Depositing litter on any occupied, vacant, or open private property, whether owned by that person or not, is not allowed. Private property should be free of litter at all times. The owner or the person in control of a property is responsible for maintaining the property.



### **ACCUMULATION OF REFUSE [Ord. 5-2-14 (k)]**

Solid waste cannot accumulate on any property for more than 15 days.



### **OVERGROWN VEGETATION [Ord. 3-5-9]**

Owners, occupants, or agents of properties should not permit or maintain any undesirable vegetation, as determined by Code Enforcement.



### **LEAF & LIMB REQUIREMENTS [Ord. 5-2-7]**

- Place leaves and grass in paper lawn bags or other approved biodegradable containers.
- Limbs should not be over 6 feet in length or 4" in diameter.
- Place leaf and limb materials in the public right-of-way no more than 10 calendar days prior to the Monday of the week scheduled for collection.



### **BUILDING PERMITS [Ord. 7-1-6]**

Erecting, constructing, enlarging, altering, or improving any building, structure, or building service equipment is not allowed without first obtaining a separate permit.



### **UNSAFE STRUCTURES [Ord. 3-13-3]**

Any building that endangers the life, health, property, or safety of its occupants or the general public, as determined by the building inspector, is illegal and should be immediately repaired, rehabilitated, or demolished.



### **FRONT YARD PARKING [Ord. 9-30-8]**

Parking is not allowed on an unimproved surface in a front yard in a residential zone. In all residential zones, off-street parking of automobiles, trucks, trailers and recreational vehicles in the front yard are limited to a contiguous area that is no more than 25% of the front yard, or 12' wide and the depth of the front yard, whichever is greater. These parking areas should be paved with pervious or impervious concrete or asphalt or graveled, if permanently edged.



### **JUNK VEHICLES [Ord. 3-5-8]**

Parking, storing, leaving, or permitting the parking, storing or leaving of any junked vehicle on any private property for over 30 days is not allowed.



### **BUSINESS OCCUPATION TAX [Ord. 6-1-1]**

A business occupation tax certificate is required for each person engaged in business, trade, or occupation, including home-based businesses. The certificate must be displayed.



### **NUMBER OF RESIDENTS RESTRICTIONS IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES [Ord. 9-15-18]**

#### **Definitions:**

*Family:* two or more persons residing in a single dwelling unit where all members are related by blood, marriage, adoption up to the second degree of consanguinity, or foster care. The term family does not include any organization or institution group.



*Consanguinity:* includes husbands and wives; parents and children; grandparents and grandchildren; brothers and sisters; aunts and uncles; nephews and nieces; and first cousins.

*Residing:* A person is considered as residing in a dwelling unit if he or she stays overnight for more than 30 days within a 90 day period.

*AR neighborhood:* a property in any Agriculture Residential (AR) zoning district that are in proximity of 10 or more single family dwelling units, not separated by other uses or vacant property.

Owners of any single dwelling unit located in any Single-Family Residential (RS) zoning district or any AR neighborhood cannot have more than two unrelated individuals residing therein, whether or not a family also resides therein. Nor shall any family, as defined, have more than one unrelated individual residing with the family.

The zoning district for individual addresses is available from the Planning Department (706-613-3515).