

Orlo Vista United Safe Neighborhood

A newsletter about issues important to you and your neighbors

Community Meetings

3rd Tuesday of each month 7:00 p.m. Orlo Vista Chamber of Commerce 38 Hastings Street March 21, 2023 April 18, 2023 May 16, 2023

Contact <u>oak5455@aol.com</u> or 407-484-5164 for meeting assistance

Orange County Telephone Numbers

Orange County
Customer Service
3-1-1

Sheriff's Non-Emergency 407-836-HELP (4357)

Sheriff's Emergency 9-1-1

Crime Line **407-423-TIPS (8477)**

Drug Enforcement 407-521-2400

Parking Enforcement 407-836-0800

Seniors First **407-292-0177**

Housing, Food, Social Services **2-1-1**

Reporting a Code Violation - Call 311

Jordan Hodge, Lead Code Compliance Inspector, Neighborhood Services Divison

In the growing lexicon of technology, "Google it" has become the proverbial crutch we've adopted, forever propping us up with baked salmon recipes or the biking distance from Albuquerque to Saskatchewan. Albeit on a much smaller scale, Orange County has established its own pillar of information in our community. You may be familiar with the 311 non-emergency help and information service, but speaking from the code compliance perspective, you may be curious about what violations should be reported. Well, at the risk of sounding biased or vague, let's just agree with the tried and true, "If you see something, say something," as our baseline. If what you're witnessing appears to be unusual behavior, is bothersome to you, or could otherwise be seemingly problematic for the public at large, report it to 311.

That aside, let's also try to reveal more of what constitutes an actual code violation. Beginning with what is perhaps the most emblematic issue associated with code violations, let's focus on high grass and weeds. The operative piece of this complaint is twofold: length and definition. High grass and weeds that meet or exceed 18 inches in height are verifiable violations, but that only satisfies the first portion of the complaint. How vegetation is defined is the second part. The definition of grass and weeds does not include bushes, shrubs, trees, vines, flowering plants, or any other living plant life typically used and being used for landscaping purposes. Keeping these two points in mind, if your neighbor's property is filled with exotic flowers, aromatic shrubbery, and the grass is kept at 17 ½ inches, a code violation cannot be issued.

Moving on, perhaps what you're viewing isn't located on the exterior of the home and is, instead, an interior issue. Do you see what appears to be a construction crew actively replacing a roof, tearing down walls, or converting a garage into an enclosed living space? These could be perfectly legal scenarios, but the appropriate permits are required. For these examples, if there are no permits issued, they would constitute as code violations. Including, but not limited to, these examples of new construction and existing alterations, you can always call 311 and staff will determine whether the applicable permits were issued.

Wait, there's more. Vehicles located on a property without a license plate/registration tag, trash/junk/debris strewn about the yard, roosters being kept on residential properties, recreational vehicles playing host and remaining occupied for periods of time, etc. are all representative examples of what you should report to 311. Taking this point a step further, a Code Compliance Inspector only has authority within the property's boundaries. This is to say, if what you're witnessing is on the sidewalk or in the street, there's a good chance another division is responsible for addressing the matter, but you should still report it to 311. The matter will be referred to the appropriate agency to ensure it is handled as appropriate.

Open House & Gamers Night with Orange County Sheriff's mobile video trailer Friday, March 10 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events
Orlo Vista Chamber
38 S Hastings Street

Meeting with new Orange County
District 6 Commissioner Mike Scott
Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Friendly Reminders

Everyone, come on! Do your part...
Our Orange County Solid Waste sends every household a newsletter, "THE RECYCLER."

<u>REMINDER</u>: Place **TRASH & RECYCLING BINS** curbside (Not in the street, unless unavoidable)

DO NOT leave bins at curb after collection; Return them ASAP to your property's designated Trash & Recycling bins locale.

YARD WASTE/HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: Bundle branches and palm fronds 3 feet or less, with string or twine.

Yard BAGS or CANS must weigh less than 60 pounds.

Oodles of information regarding household items, hazardous and electronic waste disposal is available at:

www.ocfl.net/GreenClean



ALWAYS BEFORE 6 a.m. on COLLECTION DAY

Orange County Utilities Solid Waste: 407-836-6601 or solid.waste@ocfl.net

THANK YOU

Tractor trailers are prohibited from parking in residential communities.



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