

BRENTWOOD BOROUGH CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1)Q: What are the Borough's rules regarding grass, weeds, and brush?

A: Grass may not exceed a height of 8 inches. Landowners are responsible for keeping their entire property free of weeds, including areas abutting the roadway or sidewalk. Hedges must be neatly trimmed so as not to become a sight hazard for motorists or an obstruction for pedestrians. Grass clippings, brush, and other plant matter must be properly disposed of through Allied Waste.

2)Q: I own a vehicle that is in need of repairs. The inspection stickers are out of date, but I plan on restoring it in the future. Can I keep this auto on my property?

A: No. Unless a vehicle has both valid inspection stickers on the front windshield and valid registration stickers on the rear license plate, it may not be stored in the Borough at any time, unless it is housed in an enclosed garage. The Police Department will ticket any inoperative vehicles that are parked on public streets.

3)Q: I just moved to the Borough. What do I need to know about garbage collection policies?

A: Trash removal is performed by Allied Waste. To set up a new account, please contact them at (877) 788-9400. Recycling is collected once every two weeks on the same day as your scheduled garbage collection. The Borough participates in a single stream recycling program; all recyclable materials can be placed in one bin. No waste may be placed at the curbside prior to 5:00PM on the day preceding collections, and all storage containers must be removed from the curbside by 6:00PM on collection day.

Inquire with Allied prior to placing oversized items, building materials, or large quantities of trash out for collection; if the contracted hauler is unable to pick up these items and the property owners does not remove them from the exterior premises, the Borough will have them disposed of at cost.

Please do not place computers, printers, televisions, or similar electronics out for collection, as state law prohibits the disposal of these items through residential trash service. The Borough will provide notification on its website of any local recycling events at which these devices will be collected. Additionally, area Best Buy stores are currently accepting most used electronics, while Goodwill outlets will accept unwanted computers. See the websites of these retailers for details.

4) Q: What are the Borough's restrictions on the keeping of pets at a residence?

A: Residents are limited to a maximum of four dogs, cats, or other traditional household pets. Property owners are responsible for promptly cleaning feces. They must additionally prohibit pets from becoming a public nuisance by preventing excessive barking or howling and assuring that their animals do not travel onto neighboring properties.

Although the raising of chickens, bees, and other animals that are generally considered livestock is becoming a popular hobby in urban environments, the keeping of such animals is prohibited in the Borough.

5) Q: What are the Borough's regulations regarding the removal of snow from sidewalks?

A: In residential districts, sidewalks must be shoveled within four hours of the cessation of snowfall, or, if the accumulation occurs overnight, within four hours of sunrise on the day following the cessation of snowfall. In commercial districts, the sidewalks must be cleared within two hours. It is illegal to deposit cleared snow onto public streets. If you are physically unable to comply with these stipulations, please call the Borough office at (412) 884-1500. A local volunteer will be happy to assist with this activity.

6) Q: I own a boat/RV/camping trailer/utility trailer. Am I able to store it in my driveway?

A: All RVs and trailers must be parked behind the building setback line. Storage of these vehicles in a front driveway (or, for structures located on a corner lot, a side driveway) is prohibited. No vehicle with a length greater than 20 feet may be stored in any residential district in the Borough. The Police Department will ticket any such vehicles that are parked on public streets.

7) Q: My neighbor's tree is encroaching upon my property. Am I able to trim the branches that are on my side of the property line?

A: Yes. It is your right to cut back or remove any plant matter on your property. Landowners are also required to remove dead or hazardous trees at their own expense.

8) Q: My garage was tagged with graffiti. Who is responsible for removing this eyesore?

A: Property owners are responsible for removing graffiti. Please call the Police Department (911) to file a complaint regarding this act of vandalism.

9) Q: What are the Borough's specifications regarding address numbers?

A: All buildings must contain a visible premises identification number that is at least 4 inches in height and that contrasts with the background on which it is displayed. Please make certain that your address numbers are not obscured by trees/hedges, automobiles, or decorations.

10) Q: I'm interested in purchasing an outdoor fireplace or fire pit. Does the Borough regulate these items?

A: Brentwood does not address open burning in its code of ordinances but rather follows the provisions outlined by the Allegheny County Health Department. The use of an outdoor fireplace or fire pit is considered to be a "recreational burn" and is permitted if the device is located at least 15 feet from any structure or property line. Only clean firewood may be utilized for a recreational burn. Residents are prohibited from burning trash or leaves.