Noise Ordinance Violations:

Violations of the noise ordinance can occur at any time of day when the sound level exceeds noise standards set by the municipal code.

Activities deemed to cause loud and excessive noise include:

- Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, singing, and loud or boisterous talking that is audible from any curb line or beyond the boundary line of the parcel from which the noise emanates;
- Using a stereo system, Bluetooth speaker, or sound amplifier of any nature that is audible from any curb line or beyond the boundary line of the parcel from which the noise emanates; or
- Playing musical instruments outside.

(Ord. 684 § 3, 2015; Ord. 731 § 4, 2020)

Violations—Penalty.

- First citation: $250 fine
- Each subsequent citation - $500 fine
- Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such.

(Ord. 277 § 3, 1991; Ord. 684 § 5, 2015; Ord. 721 § 1, 2019)

Waivers and Variances

Limited Temporary Waivers - The Community Development Director may issue a temporary waiver allowing construction or landscape maintenance activities that may cause intermittent noise between 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. The waiver shall not allow the operation of heavy equipment, engines, pneumatic tools or power equipment before 7:00 a.m.

Variances Application - The owner or operator of a noise source which violates any of the provisions of Chapter 9.06 of the Municipal Code may file an application with the Community Development Director for a variance from the provisions thereof. The application shall be accompanied by a fee in the amount established by resolution of the City Council. The Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing within sixty (60) days to consider the Variance request. See Chapter 9.06.070 of the Municipal Code for details on application requirements.

For questions or to report a noise disturbance during normal business hours, please contact Code Enforcement at 760-346-2489

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To report noise disturbances outside of normal business hours, please call the non-emergency line for the Sheriff's Department at 760-836-3215



City of Indian Wells

Noise Ordinance

INDIAN WELLS
CALIFORNIA



Standards for Determining a Violation

(1) The sound level of the objectionable noise;

(2) The sound level of the ambient noise;

(3) The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities;

(4) The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates;

(5) The density of the inhabitation of the area within which the noise emanates;

(6) The time of day or night the noise occurs;

(7) Whether the noise is continuous, recurrent or intermittent; or

(8) Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or noncommercial activity.

(Ord. 277 § 3, 1991; Ord. 684 § 2, 2015; Ord. 731 § 3, 2020)

Noise Level Categories

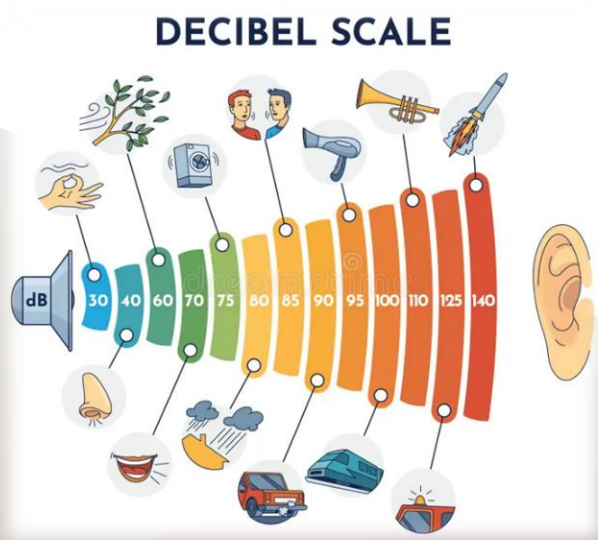
Exterior Noise Standards:

55 dBA from 7:01 a.m. to 10 p.m.

50 dBA from 10:01 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Sound level is unlawful if it exceeds, when measured on any residential property, the exterior noise standard by:

Decibels	Cumulative Period
+3	30 minutes/hour
+5	15 minutes/hour
+10	5 minutes/hour
+15	1 minute/hour
+20	Not to be exceeded.



Exceptions

(a) School bands, school athletic and school entertainment events. School entertainment events shall not include events sponsored by student organizations;

(b) Outdoor gatherings, public dances, shows and sporting and entertainment events, provided said events are conducted pursuant to a discretionary license or permit by the City;

(c) Activities conducted on parks and public playgrounds, provided such parks and public playgrounds are owned and operated by a public entity;

(e) Noise sources associated with construction or landscape maintenance activities during the hours of 7:00am – 5:00pm Monday through Friday and 8:00am – 5:00pm on Saturdays;

(f) Maintenance of trees and residential property by the property occupant him/herself provided said activities take place between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.;

*See Chapter 9.06.041 of the Municipal Code for additional exceptions.

Construction or Landscape Maintenance Noise

Limited to the following hours unless a temporary waiver is granted by the Community Development Director or his/her authorized designee:

Monday – Friday from 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

No usage on Sundays or National Holidays.