

Ten City Codes You Should Know

Help maintain our beautiful city!

The City of Merriam is committed to a clean and attractive community by working with residents to encourage compliance with the City's municipal code of ordinances. Every citizen has a responsibility to keep his/her own property and neighborhood clean and attractive.



For specific ordinance information on the code of regulations referred to in this document, contact the Community Development Department at 913.322.5520.

1 Exterior Building Maintenance

All exterior building maintenance surfaces including doors, soffits, eaves, windows, porches and trim must be maintained in good condition. Peeling, flaking or chipped paint should be eliminated and the surface repaired.

Sidewalks, driveways and parking areas must be free of hazardous conditions. Accessory structures, fences and walls must also be maintained in good repair.

2 House Numbers

Clearly posted house numbers can save precious time should an emergency occur. Can life-saving personnel find you?

All houses and buildings must display street address numbers in an area easily readable from the street. The numbers must be at least four inches in height and in a contrasting color from your house.



Trees and shrubbery can cover numbers if not properly maintained. Be sure to keep your numbers clearly visible throughout the year.

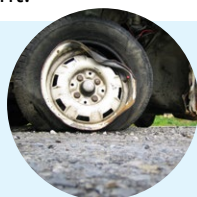
3 Uncontrolled Vegetation

Lawn mowing is required. Weeds, grasses and other controlled vegetation must be kept below 10 inches in height on all properties. Property owners are required to mow any area between their property line and the adjacent curb or street, including the ditch area.



4 Tree Maintenance

Property owners are responsible for the maintenance of trees on their private property and trees located in the adjacent right-of-way areas. Dead trees and/or fallen tree limbs must be removed from the property. If you are planning to replace or add trees on your property, please be aware that there are specific regulations governing planting in right-of-way areas. This information can be obtained by calling Community Development.



5 Inoperable Vehicles

The outside storage of inoperable vehicles is not allowed. All vehicles must be operable and with current licensing attached.

6 Outside Storage

Most household items can not be stored outside. The only items allowed outside without restrictions are lawn furniture, barbecue grills, arbors, trellises and flagpoles. Some other items may be stored outside such as trash cans, boats, trailers, campers, and firewood, but there are restrictions associated with the storage which include placement, screening, paving, and other specifics. These basic restrictions are outlined below.

7 Trash Containers and Collection

Trash must be collected at least once weekly at all properties. On trash collection day, containers, filled bags and bundled tree branches or newspapers may be placed outside on private property for pickup. On other days, containers must be stored indoors, outside behind the front building line, or screened from view.



8 Storage of Firewood & Compost Bins

Firewood and compost bins may be stored outside if they are located behind the front of the house and not within three feet of any property line. Firewood must be neatly stacked and should be raised to discourage rodent activity. Compost bins should be maintained to prevent them from becoming a nuisance to neighbors.

9 Boats, RV's, Trailers, Campers & Camper Tops

These items may be stored outside if they are located behind the front building line and not within seven feet of the side property line. They must be located on a hard surface (asphalt or concrete) as required for off-street parking. In the case of a corner lot, other requirements must be met. Please call Community Development for specifics.



10 Off-Street Parking

All off-street parking surfaces must be graded and paved with asphalt or concrete. Parking of vehicles on the grass or other non-paved parking surfaces is not allowed. Driveways and other parking areas should be maintained free of cracks, potholes, and other defects by the property owner. Some homes in Merriam have gravel driveways and parking areas that existed before paving regulations were put in place. These driveways or parking areas can not be extended and must be maintained free of bare spots and vegetation. The outdoor storage or overnight parking of a truck, bus or trailer having a manufacturer's rating greater than 15 MR is prohibited in residential districts.

Other Helpful Information

Some home repairs and alterations may require that you obtain a building permit, including fence and roof installation and driveway replacements. You may obtain a permit from the Community Development Department at City Hall, or by calling 913.322.5520.



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