

Regulated devices noise

Fact Sheet

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Regulated device noise

Noise from power tools and other regulated devices may disturb neighbours, disrupt sleep and interfere with normal daily activities. If loud enough, it can affect health.

This fact sheet is intended to help people manage noise on residential premises and meet legal requirements.

Regulated devices

Regulated devices include:

- compressors and generators
- ducted vacuuming systems
- grass cutters, such as lawnmowers and edge cutters
- impacting tools, such as hammers and nail guns
- leaf blowers and mulchers
- oxyacetylene burners
- electrical, mechanical or pneumatic power tools, such as chainsaws, drills and sanders.

Note: These provisions do not apply to builders, owner builders or building contractors working on a building site. For information on requirements for builders, contact Council or read the fact sheet "Building work noise".

Be a good neighbour

Talk to neighbours. Find out what concerns they have and seek suggestions to resolve problems. Solutions can often be found that satisfy everyone.

The law

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, a person must not operate a regulated device in a way that makes an audible noise:

- on a business day or Saturday, before 7am or after 7pm; or
- on any other day, before 8am or after 7pm.

Council will investigate if issues between neighbours cannot be resolved and further complaints are made.

If the regulated device exceeds noise limits, Council may issue a direction notice detailing the noise nuisance and give a timeframe for noise nuisance to be rectified, or issue an on the spot fine.

Ways you can reduce noise

Limit hours of use

Ask neighbours which times noise will particularly disturb them.

Select equipment carefully

When purchasing equipment, consider the noise level or use alternatives, such as:

- sweeping instead of using a leaf blower
- composting instead of mulching
- using electric powered devices instead of petrol engines.

Consider your location

Complete work indoors or in a work shed if possible. Close windows and doors to reduce noise levels and consider incorporating noise reduction measures into your workshop.

Maintain equipment

Regular maintenance will decrease noise and improve the effectiveness of equipment. Contact the manufacturer for advice.

Use acoustic enclosures

Some fixed equipment can be enclosed in a wooden box with an absorbent lining and adequate ventilation to reduce noise. Contact the manufacturer or installer for advice.

Modifications might help

Consider whether modifications, such as mufflers can be fitted to engine-powered equipment. Contact the manufacturer for advice.

Install a fence or barrier

A solid fence with no gaps can help reduce noise levels.

For more information

Phone **3412 3412**

Visit www.logan.qld.gov.au

Email council@logan.qld.gov.au

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