

## Various Communities Noise Ordinances 4/21

Town	Population	Ordinance	Time	Link
Alexandria, VA	160,140	Recently Updated: Civil Penalty: \$100, \$250*, \$500** *Within 7 days of first violation **Within in 14 days of first violation. Becomes criminal if more than 3 in 12 months period. No sound may exceed 65 dB. May not be heard beyond 50'. No sound may exceed 75 dB. May not be heard beyond 50'.	11pm to 7am  7am to 11pm	<a href="#">Noise Control   City of Alexandria, VA</a>
Bristol, VA		<i>Radios, phonographs, etc.</i> The using, operating or permitting to be played, used or operated any radio or television receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in such manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time with louder volume than is necessary for convenient hearing for the person who is in the room, vehicle or chamber in which such machine or device is operated and who is a voluntary listener thereto. The operation of any such set, instrument, phonograph, machine or device between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet from the building, structure or vehicle in which it is located shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.	11pm curfew no dB in place.  11pm to 7am, 50 feet, plainly audible	<a href="#">Bristol residents sound off on noise issue   Latest Headlines   heraldcourier.com</a>  <a href="#">Chapter 38 - ENVIRONMENT   Code of Ordinances   Bristol, VA   Municode Library</a>
Charlottesville, VA	46,780	Class 4 misdemeanor Noise: Business District: 75 dB or more at a distance of 10' or more from the sound of the sound generation. Sound levels in restaurants and music halls: not in excess of 55 dB in neighbor commercial corridor	11pm to 6am	<a href="#">Noise-Ordinance-PDF (charlottesville.org)</a>

## Various Communities Noise Ordinances 4/21

Farmville, VA	7,872	<p>New Changes: Dec 2019            Class 4 Misdemeanor:            The playing of music or other noise, electronically or otherwise, in such a manner or with such volume or duration as to be plainly audible through the wall of an enclosed dwelling, business or other structure</p> <p><i>Unreasonably loud.</i> Noise which is substantially incompatible with the time and location where created to the extent that it creates an actual or imminent interference with peace or good order. The following factors incident to such noise are to be considered: time of day; proximity to residential structures; whether the noise is recurrent, intermittent, or constant; the volume and intensity; whether the noise is related to the normal operation of a business or other labor activity and whether the noise is subject to being controlled without unreasonable effort or expense to the creator thereof</p>	<p>11pm to 7am Sunday to Wednesday            Midnight to 7am Thursday to Saturday.</p> <p>Note: no defined feet in definition of plainly audible</p>	<p><a href="#">Chapter 16 - NOISE CONTROL   Code of Ordinances   Farmville, VA   Municode Library</a></p>
Greenville, SC	68,563	<p>Penalty: All law enforcement officers in the ordinary course of their duties shall have the authority to request compliance without having received a complaint from a member of the public. However, no charge shall be made against any person, unless a complaint is made to an officer and the person has first been provided an opportunity to abate the offending noise immediately without penalty. However, if the violation continues or reoccurs within a 24-hour period, or if the same person has been provided an opportunity two or more times within the preceding 30 days to abate a noise at the same location and the person continues to make the noise or continues to allow it to be made, then such person shall be guilty of a violation of this division and shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than the maximum fine allowed by state law for violations of municipal ordinances, or imprisonment for not more than 30 days. The city attorney may also seek injunctive relief, or any other appropriate remedy available at</p>		<p><a href="#">DIVISION 3. - NOISE   Code of Ordinances   Greenville, SC   Municode Library</a></p>

## Various Communities Noise Ordinances 4/21

		<p>law or in equity, in a court of competent jurisdiction, to ensure compliance.          Daytime Decibels are 80, Nighttime 75.          dBA readings will be made at least 25' away from the privately owned premises from which the noise is generated or 25' from the source if on public property.</p>	<p>Central Business District:          Daytime: 7am to 10pm</p>	
Harrisonburg, VA	54,033	<p>Class 4 misdemeanor if first time in 3 years. If convicted twice within 3 years, Class 3 misdemeanor. If convicted 3 or more, Class 2 misdemeanor.          Mass Outdoor gatherings: Must show evidence of plans to mitigate and limit sound from the mass outdoor gathering so the effects of excessive noise are minimized or eliminated. And evidence that the site and the contact organizer has not had a noise violation of two or more in 12 preceding months.          Large party nuisance: gathering of 10 people or more whether contained within a structure or spills outdoor, and is plainly audible across a property line, through partitions common to 2 dwellings within a building or at a distance of 100' or more from its source and on property other than that where it originated.          Sound level - Restaurants: no sound is allowed during operating hours in excess of 65dBA when measured at or outside the property line.</p>	<p>Mass Outdoor Gathering: 10am to 10:30pm. 100 people or more. Public or private land.          This appears to be 24 hours.           Recently removed times of 7am to 2am.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/CMO/Noise%20Ordinance%2015-3-2%20and%2015-3-3%20%282017%29%20revised.pdf">https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/sites/default/files/CMO/Noise%20Ordinance%2015-3-2%20and%2015-3-3%20%282017%29%20revised.pdf</a></p>
Lexington, VA	7,136	<p>Civil Penalty: \$250 for 1<sup>st</sup> offense, \$500 for 2<sup>nd</sup> and all others.          Radios, phonographs, etc. The using, operating or permitting to be played, used or operated of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in such manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time or any place, including</p>	<p>All day – 50 “</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cityoflexingtonva.com/Noise">City of Lexington, VA Noise (ecode360.com)</a></p>

## Various Communities Noise Ordinances 4/21

		<p>streets, sidewalks, parking lots and other places open to the public, with louder volume than is necessary for convenient hearing for the persons who are in the room, vehicle, chamber or other place in which such machine or device is operated and who are voluntary listeners thereto. The operation of any such set, instrument, phonograph, machine or device in an unenclosed place at any time during the day or night or in an enclosed place between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet from the building, structure or vehicle in which it is located or from the device itself, if in the open, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section</p> <p>Except in public emergency, it shall be unlawful for any person to make use of sound-amplifying equipment or loudspeakers, in such a manner that the sound or noise thereof is audible to the public, without a written permit from the City Manager. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the operation of any motor vehicle or trailer pursuant to a permit obtained under § <u>275-4</u>.</p>		
Lynchburg, VA	82,126	<p>Class 3 misdemeanor, second time in 12 months, Class 2.            Business 7am to 10pm 67dB, 62dB from 10pm to 7am            10minute reading during noise and once removed for background noise.</p>	<p>See notes in column to the left.            If wind blowing over 10mph or precipitation, a sound level meter cannot be used. If can't be used, officer will resort to other available means as section III, G. any noise from an adjacent property or street which</p>	<p><a href="#">FO-0713-Noise Ordinance Enforcement-15.pdf (lynchburgva.gov)</a>   <a href="#">Lynchburg, Virginia.pdf (nonoise.org)</a></p>

## Various Communities Noise Ordinances 4/21

			unreasonable disturbs certain persons within a noise sensitive zone, certain enumerated acts declared to create excessive, unnecessary or unreasonable noise, or unnecessary noise in the operation of motor vehicles.	
Manassas, VA	41,641	<p>Class 2 misdemeanor. Commercial District: 65 dB 7am to 7pm weekdays, 9am to 6pm on weekends and legal holidays observed by the city government. 60 dB times outside the ones listed above.</p> <p>Noise level at any public gathering shall not exceed 100 dB.</p> <p>Other violations: The playing of radio, phonographs, television, tape or disc players, musical instruments or drums, sound amplifiers or similar devices which produce, reproduce or amplify sound in such a manner as to emit sound audible at a distance of 50 feet outside of a building or audible through partitions common to two or more dwelling units within a building.</p> <p>Vehicle Class: Speed limit 35mph or less – 6,000 lbs or more – 86dB, motorcycles 82dB, towed vehicle 76dB.</p>	Measured at the lot line of the sound source or at any point within any other property affected by the noise. Minimum of 3 readings taken.	<a href="#">Chapter 58 - ENVIRONMENT   Code of Ordinances   Manassas, VA   Municode Library</a>
Roanoke, VA	99,411	<p>Class 2 Misdemeanor and public nuisance Noise from musical instruments:</p>	10pm and 8am sound heard across a residential real property boundary.	<a href="#">ARTICLE VII. - NOISE CONTROL   Code of Ordinances  </a>

## Various Communities Noise Ordinances 4/21

			8am to 10pm, sound heard on residential property more than 50' from boundary of the source.	<a href="#">Roanoke, VA   Municode Library</a>
Staunton, VA	24,922	Class 4 Misdemeanor 80 dBA as measured at any point 50' perpendicular to the apparent property boundary where the noise emanates	11:30pm to 9am	<a href="#">Chapter 8.25 NOISE* (codepublishing.com)</a>
Winchester, VA	28,108	Class 3 Misdemeanor In excess of 65 dB when measured inside the receiving structure at least 4' from the wall of the nearest source with doors and windows to the receiving area closed. Motor Vehicle Noise 35mph or less: All at a distance of 50'. Motor vehicle > 6,000 and: 86 Motorcycles: 82dB Any other motor vehicles or any combination being towed: 76dB.	6pm to 11:59pm Monday to Thursday 6pm to 1:30am Friday through Saturday/Sunday morning	<a href="#">CHAPTER 17 - NOISE CONTROL   Code of Ordinances   Winchester, VA   Municode Library</a>

Notes: Findings mainly concentrated on noise in commercial business or downtown districts.

Daytime noise ordinance is becoming a topic for discussion for a few of the Downtowns.

Type of punishment varies for a civil offense to misdemeanors 2 to 4.

Amplified music versus acoustic music.

Times of day and weekdays may vary in limitations.

dBA: Only one that I found required more than one reading and had a time limit required for violations – 10 minutes and 3 readings.

Topography affects how sound travels.

From Greenville, SC: When determining violations, enforcement officers consider factors such as volume and intensity; the source and nature of the noise; and the area where it occurs, according to the City of Greenville. Officers do not need a complaint from the public to request compliance but do not charge anyone unless a complaint is made. Continued or repeated violations are cause for a fine.