



SOUND (NOISE) PERMIT

I. WHEN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED:

You are required to have a noise permit if you:

- 1) Have amplified sound at any indoor or outdoor event ***and more than 100 people will attend.***
- 2) Install, use or operate within the city ***a loudspeaker or other amplifying equipment*** in a fixed or moveable position or mounted upon any sound truck for purposes of giving instructions, directions, talks, addresses, lectures or transmitting music to any persons upon a street, alley, sidewalk, park, place or other outdoor property.

II. WHAT A NOISE PERMIT ALLOWS:

- 1) The City of Davis noise ordinance (24.02.020 DCC) in part lists 3 types of noise “violations” you could be cited for.

The first is the “general noise prohibition”, which states it is a violation for a noise you create to be heard inside another person’s residence (as long as their windows and doors are closed).

The second type of violation is any noise you create which exceeds established decibel levels which are as follows:

RESIDENTIAL NOISE LIMITS

Residential areas 9 PM – 7 AM 50 decibels
7 AM – 9 PM 55 decibels

Commercial areas 10 PM – 7 AM 55 decibels
7 AM – 10 PM 60 decibels

Finally, it is a violation to produce ***any*** noise in excess of 80 decibels.

An approved Noise Permit makes you exempt from the first noise standard, and adds 20 decibels to the “residential noise limits” charts listed above. However, a Noise Permit does NOT allow you to ever produce noise that exceeds 80 decibels.

A Noise Permit is not a free pass to create as much noise as you like. There are limitations as spelled out in the Davis City Code, and violations of these limitations could still result in a citation being issued.

III. LIMITATIONS/REQUIREMENTS FOR A NOISE PERMIT

- 1) A Noise Permit is valid until 12-midnight on weekends and holidays, and 10 PM on all other nights.
- 2) No permit will be issued if there has been a permit at the requested location or within 200 yards of it in the prior 3 months.
- 3) There must be no history of chronic noise violations.
- 4) Without exception, the application shall be submitted to the Police Department *at least 16 days prior to the event.*
- 5) All speakers must be at ground level, and no raised or double height speakers are allowed.
- 6) Only a maximum of 4 hours of noise/music is allowed.
- 7) ***PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION ON A NOISE PERMIT APPLICATION WILL CAUSE THE PERMIT TO BE CANCELLED AND SUBJECT THE APPLICANT TO AN IMMEDIATE CITATION IF THE EVENT IS STILL HELD AND RESULTS IN A VIOLATION OF THE NOISE ORDINANCE.***

IV. WHO YOU MUST NOTIFY

- 1) Prior to any noise permit being issued, the applicant shall provide *written notice to all residents within 200 yards of where the event is being held*, and in the case of an apartment complex, to all residences on the same parcel.
- 2) This notification (on the attached form or other DPD approved form) must be completed at least 14 days prior to the event.
- 3) A complete and accurate list of all residences contacted, and a copy of the notice shall be returned to the Davis Police Department no later than 12 days prior to the day of the event.
- 4) ***FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE DAVIS POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH THE LIST OF NOTIFIED RESIDENCES WILL RESULT IN CANCELLATION OF THE NOISE PERMIT.***

V. APPLYING FOR THE PERMIT

- 1) Complete the attached application *completely*. (Incomplete applications will be returned).
- 2) Return the completed application to the front counter at the Police Department.
- 3) A *non-refundable* fee of \$30.00 is required at the time the application is filed.
- 4) Notify all affected neighbors (see section II).
- 5) The application will be reviewed and the permit available (if approved) to the applicant at least 10 days prior to the day of the event.
- 6) An approved application must be picked up at the front counter of the Police Department prior to the event.
- 7) The applicant **MUST** have the permit present at the event and available for inspection upon request by any Officer or Police Services Specialist of the Davis Police Department, otherwise the permit becomes null and void.

***** All permits requiring resident notifications are subject to audit. Failure to comply with all provisions of the permit process may result in the denial of future permit applications. *****