

TITLE II – COMMUNITY PROTECTION  
DIVISION 2 – ENFORCEMENT: NUISANCES

CHAPTER 55  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

**55.01 Definitions**

**55.02 Nuisances Prohibited**

55.01 DEFINITIONS. The following terms are defined for use in the chapters of this Code of Ordinances pertaining to nuisances:

1. "Nuisance" means whatever is injurious to health, indecent or offensive to the senses or an obstacle to the free use of property so as essentially to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property. The following are declared to be nuisances:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.1)

- A. **Offensive Smells.** The erecting, continuing or using of any building or other place for the exercise of any trade, employment or manufacture, which, by occasioning noxious exhalations, offensive smells, or other annoyances, becomes injurious and dangerous to the health, comfort or property of individuals or the public.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[1])

- B. **Filth or Noisome Substance.** The causing or suffering of offal, filth or noisome substance to be collected or to remain in any place to the prejudice of others.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[2])

- C. **Impeding Passage of Navigable River.** The obstructing or impeding without legal authority the passage of any navigable river, harbor or collection of water.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[3])

- D. **Water Pollution.** The corrupting or rendering unwholesome or impure the water of any river, stream or pond, or unlawfully diverting the same from its natural course or state, to the injury or prejudice of others.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[4])

- E. **Blocking Public and Private Ways.** The obstructing or encumbering by fences, buildings or otherwise the public roads, private ways, streets, alleys, commons, landing places or burying grounds.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[5])

- F. **Billboards.** Billboards, signboards and advertising signs, whether erected and constructed on public or private property, which so obstruct and impair the view of any portion or part of a public street, avenue, highway, boulevard or alley or of a railroad or street railway track as to render dangerous the use thereof.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[7])

- G. Cottonwood Trees. Cotton-bearing cottonwood trees and all other cotton-bearing poplar trees.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[8])
- H. Storing of Inflammable Junk. The depositing or storing of inflammable junk, such as old rags, rope, cordage, rubber, bones and paper, by dealers in such articles within the fire limits of the City, unless it be in a building of fireproof construction.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[10])
- I. Air Pollution. The emission of dense smoke, noxious fumes or fly ash.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[11])
- J. Weeds, Brush. Dense growth of all weeds, vines, brush or other vegetation in the City so as to constitute a health, safety or fire hazard.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[12])
- K. Dutch Elm Disease. Trees infected with Dutch Elm Disease.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.12[13])
- L. Airport Air Space. Any object or structure hereafter erected within one thousand (1,000) feet of the limits of any municipal or regularly established airport or landing place, which may endanger or obstruct aerial navigation including take-off and landing, unless such object or structure constitutes a proper use or enjoyment of the land on which the same is located.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[9])
- M. Houses of Ill Fame. Houses of ill fame, kept for the purpose of prostitution and lewdness, gambling houses, or houses resorted to by persons using controlled substances, as defined in Section 204.101[6] of the Code of Iowa, in violation of law, or houses where drunkenness, quarreling, fighting or breaches of the peace are carried on or permitted to the disturbance of others.  
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2[6])

55.02 NUISANCES PROHIBITED. The creation or maintenance of a nuisance is prohibited, and a nuisance, public or private, may be abated in the manner provided for in Chapter 56 or State law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.3)