

## Village of Oswego Top Ten Code Enforcement Violations

Below, you will find a brief description of the most frequently reported violations and the fines associated with them.

Fine Class	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense
Class 1	\$55.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$750.00
Class 2	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$750.00
Class 3	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$250.00	\$750.00
Class 4	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$750.00

Per ordinance, all fines are subject to daily issuance and increases to the next level of offense.

This is left to the discretion of the Village of Oswego.

### 1. Inoperable Motor Vehicles (Ord. 6-11-1 thru 6-11-7) **Class 1**

#### **Offense**

Inoperative motor vehicles cannot be stored except in a fully enclosed structure that was constructed with a permit. An inoperative vehicle is a vehicle that is not equipped with all parts that are required to legally and safely operate on public streets and/or cannot be driven under its own power; holds an expired license plate.

### 2. Junk and Rubbish/Outdoor Storage (Ord. 6-9-1 thru 6-9-7) **Class 4**

#### **Offense**

Junk and rubbish cannot be left in the yard and must be properly disposed of. This includes but is not limited too; junk, such as auto parts, appliances, furniture, building materials and tires; trash such as discarded paper, cardboard, plastics, debris such as tree trimmings and fallen limbs. Outdoor storage is prohibited. Generally, any equipment, materials, or furnishings that would ordinarily not be used outdoors may not be stored outdoors. For example, you may not keep indoor furniture, household appliances, auto parts, or building materials outside. You may store a barbecue grill, lawn furniture, garden hoses, garden tools, outdoor play equipment for children, or a lawn mower outside in an orderly fashion.

### 3. Weeds (Ord. 6-8-1 thru 6-8-12) **Class 4 Offense**

The presence of weeds is a nuisance to public lands and private yards and must be eliminated. Areas of lawn that are not mowed or areas that are infested with weeds contribute to an unhealthy environment, are unattractive, public nuisance, a detriment to property values and destructive to natural preservation areas. All herbaceous plant material and turf grass lawns shall be maintained at a height no greater than eight inches. First time violation or offense shall receive a written notice demanding the abatement of the nuisance within ten (10) days. If the said person does not abate the nuisance within (10) days, the landowner or occupant shall be guilty of an offense punishable by above fine.

### 4. Parking (Ord. 12.01) **Class 2 Offense**

Parking in residential lots may only take place on a legal driveway or in a garage. A driveway or parking area must be constructed with approved parking surfaces. There are limits to the amount of approved surface area that can be used for a driveway or parking. See ordinance for approved surface area restrictions.

5. **Conditions of Structures 4-7-1 (Chapter 3, 2009 International Property Maintenance Code-effective 01/01/2012) Class 4 Offense**  
The maintenance of a structure is the responsibility of the property owner. Any wood, siding, shingles, roof covering, railings, fences, walls, ceilings, porches, doors, windows and screens, and other exterior parts of a structure must be maintained in weather tight, rodent proof, sound condition and good repair. The property owner is responsible for maintaining secure windows, doors or other openings that cannot be readily opened from the outside. An owner may need to board up a vacant structure if a break-in occurs. Security boards must be made of exterior grade plywood painted in a neutral color that blends inconspicuously with the exterior colors of the building.
  
6. **Recreational Vehicles (Ord. 9-4-18) Class 2 Offense**  
Recreational vehicles include but are not limited to motor homes, utility trailers, boats and campers, jet skis, snowmobiles and trailers. No recreational vehicles may be parked on any street between the hours of 10:00 pm and 5:00am. Only one recreational vehicle may be parked or stored outside of a residence on an approved surface and in an approved location. No recreational vehicle may be parked in the front yard for more than 72 hours for the sole purpose of loading and unloading. After written notice of violation and 10 day compliance period, fines are as indicated above.
  
7. **Commercial Equipment (Ord. 12.01) Class 2 Offense**  
Commercial equipment over 1 ½ ton may not be parked or stored on or near residential structures. See code for details.
  
8. **Domestic Animals (Ord. 6-4-1 thru 6-4-9) Class 1 Offense**  
No persons owning any dog shall cause or permit such dog to run at large within the village. All dogs within the Village shall be kept confined within an enclosure or be kept confined by a chain or leash not to exceed eight (8') in length. All animal excrement deposited outside the owner's property shall immediately be removed and disposed of property by the individual in custody.
  
9. **Prohibited Business (Ord. 3-1-1) Class 1 Offense**  
Certain businesses are not allowed to operate in residential areas. Car, boat or recreational vehicle repairs, manufacturing, and other activities that are not normally carried on within a residential district are prohibited; exception would be work on your own car, boat or recreational vehicle, provided the activity does not disrupt or injure residents and the work is conducted in an enclosed structure

10. **Illegal Signage (Ord. 11.00-11.11) Class 4 Offense**

The sign ordinance was created to protect the general public from damage and injury which may be caused by distractions, obstructions, and hazards created by certain signage and to encourage a sense of aesthetic appreciation for the visual environment. Penalties for any violations, refusal to comply with any provisions of the sign ordinance shall be subject to fines.

11. **Working Without a Permit (2006 International Residential Code R105.1)**

**Class 4 offense**

All applications for contractor's registration required shall be made in writing to the village of Oswego, department of building and zoning, upon forms furnished by the village. Each application shall state the name and business address of the applicant, whether it is a general contractor's or subcontractor's registration application and if the latter, the trade or trades involved, and a statement that the applicant is familiar with all pertinent village of Oswego ordinances, codes and regulations including building codes and agrees to fully comply with same. Unregistered contractors working within the Village are subject to assigned fines.

12. **Deposits on Street (Ord. 8-2-13) Class 1 Offense**

It is unlawful to deposit snow onto the streets while removing snow from resident driveways & sidewalks.

**Complete ordinance information may be found on our web site,  
[www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org) under *Village Government*.**