



KITSAP NUISANCE ABATEMENT TEAM

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are some examples of public nuisances?

A. Dilapidated buildings/structures if open and unsecured; inoperable motor vehicles within public view; accumulations of trash, junk, or litter outside of trash cans; obstructions to the public right-of-way; illegal dumping; failing septic systems or illegal discharges of sewage.

Q. What codes does KNAT enforce?

A. KNAT is a multi-agency team. Members enforce the codes/regulations/laws and policies that are under their purview. These include [Kitsap County Code](#), [WAC's](#), [RCW's](#), and [Board of Health](#) ordinances.

Q. What does it mean to “abate” a property?

A. “Abate” means to correct or to bring into compliance.

Q. How does KNAT get involved?

A. When two or more KNAT members (agencies) have substantial unresolved issues with a property, the members can request the case be added to the list of nuisance properties to be addressed by the team.

Q. An abatement case has been started on my property. What happens now?

A. You will receive a letter from KNAT identifying the violations and actions required to abate the nuisance. You MUST contact KNAT within 30 days of receiving the notice to qualify for a voluntary compliance agreement.

Q. What is a Voluntary Compliance Agreement & how does it work?

A. A Voluntary Compliance Agreement is an agreement between the property owner and KNAT identifying what is to be abated with associated timelines and what will occur if the conditions are not met. In many cases, KNAT assists the property owner in finding resources to complete the abatement process.

Q. What happens if I do not want to enter into a voluntary compliance agreement?

A. Prior to commencing with legal action, opportunities will be provided to work with KNAT voluntarily. Outreach, education, and resource assistance will be provided when possible.

Q. What happens if I do not comply with the abatement order or Voluntary Compliance Agreement?

A. Consequences of non-compliance may include some or all the following: Civil infraction starting at \$513 per violation, per day; development permit restrictions; liens filed against the subject property; other penalties and fines; and/or County abatement of the property.

Q. How long will I be given to correct the violations on my property?

A. KNAT works with each individual property owner to correct the violations as each property and violation is unique. If significant progress continues to be made and the relevant agency is kept informed of the progress by the property owner, KNAT will often extend the initial time given to correct the violation.

Q. What if I cannot afford to remove the violations on my property?

A. KNAT has resources and contacts that may be able to assist. If a property owner is unable to correct the violations, an abatement warrant is sought in the Kitsap County Superior Court which authorizes Kitsap County to perform the work and obtain a Judgment for the costs incurred. The judgment is then recovered as a Lien against the property, the same as real property taxes. Failure to pay the Judgment results in a tax foreclosure sale.

Q. How do I submit a nuisance complaint?

A. See the menu on the right side of the KNAT page to make a complaint with the responding agency.