

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do we have these standards now?

There are physical conditions that many residents consider detrimental to the well-being of their neighborhoods for which the City had no previous regulations. To address concerns and complaints, City Council recently passed an ordinance that addresses dead/dirt yards and dilapidated fences.

What qualifies as a dirt yard?

No more than 20% of a yard can be dirt. We realize that in winter and dry months many grasses go dormant. Dormant does not qualify as dirt.

Do I have to have a lawn?

No. At least 80% of a yard area must be covered with ground cover plants or other landscaping material, such as mulch, gravel, stone or paving bricks, or grass.

Does this apply to backyards?

These codes only apply to violations visible from the public street or sidewalk. Alleyways are not included.

When is a fence considered dilapidated?

Fences cannot have broken, loose, damaged, removed or missing parts.

What if I can't afford to fix my fence or yard?

Please see inside panel for assistance information.

How do I complaint about a dead yard or fence?

Call the Nuisance Hotline at 416-2200.

Dirt Yards and Dilapidated Fences...

What these standards are all about.



281 N College Av
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970-224-6046

fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices



General Information

These codes address physical deterioration of properties that affect the well-being of neighborhoods in Fort Collins.

Violations will be given a reasonable amount of time for compliance and extensions will be granted for mitigating circumstances such as weather, working with assistance programs, etc.

Enforcement will begin on January 1, 2009 and will focus on alternative resolutions for violations through assistance programs and volunteer help.

The use of enforcement will be used as a last resort to obtain compliance. Voluntary compliance is the goal.

Violations are civil infractions and subject to civil penalty.

United Way 2-1-1 is the local information and referral source for community resources. Dial 211 or 970-407-7066 for information on where to get help with things like rent, utilities, volunteer opportunities and more.

Do You Need Assistance?

Name/Program	Program Explanation	Cost/Payment Info	Qualifications
LHIP - lovelandhsg.org/Housing_Ownership_LHIP.htm			
Larimer County Home Improvement Program 970-667-3232	Grants available for dirt/dead yards or dilapidated fence repair.	Grants available based on income. 50% AMI - \$37,500 for family of four. Call for income guidelines.	Applicants must meet income qualifications, own and occupy the home, and be a resident of Fort Collins.
CSUnity - fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices/cl-programs.php			
City of Fort Collins Neighborhood Services 281 N College Av Fort Collins, CO 80524 970-224-6046	This program is a one-day service event that CSU's Student Leadership Involvement and Community Engagement (SLICE) Office organizes.	Free	All improvement projects within Fort Collins city limits can be requested.
United Way 2-1-1 - uwaylc.org			
1247 Riverside Ave. Fort Collins, CO 80524 970-407-7066	This is the local information and referral source for community resources.	Free	Applicants must be elderly, disabled or cannot afford to hire the work to be done.
Fall Clean-Up - fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices/cl-programs.php			
City of Fort Collins Neighborhood Services 281 N College Av Fort Collins, CO 80524 970-224-6046	Annual Fall event - utilizes CSU student volunteers for neighborhood projects.	Free	Volunteer assistance for yard clean-ups or fence repair for elderly or disabled.

