

Code Enforcement Report
May, 2011

I have made contact with over twenty contractors in the last two months that have been working within City limits. None had a City Business License and most were unaware that it was necessary. I gave them all applications and half of them have complied. I have not seen the others performing any other work within City limits.

Residents can help by asking contractors if they have a City Business license. The \$40 annual license is much easier to deal with than a Municipal Court Hearing and a \$650 fine.

The Yachats Municipal Court met again this month with three docket items. Two citations were for the illegal transient rental situation on Spruce Street. The City won full forfeitures on those two citations. In addition, the defendant was fined \$500 for a Contempt of Court charge for not appearing at a duly notified hearing.

The other case was failure to make any progress on a construction project for more than six months. The City won full forfeiture, with half of the fine being waived if regular payments are made on the balance. Another warning has been issued on this property for garbage and debris being left by transients. A windbreak shelter had been constructed from left over lumber at the building site.

Other Code Enforcement items:

The construction debris on the cull de sac off from Horizon Hill was removed. This was the second incident and the Sheriff was notified about this incident.

The signs on the glass recycling dumpster at C & K Market keep being removed. I have a pretty good idea of who is doing it. They will be cited for destruction of City property. This is an agreement with Dahl's and the City. There are liability issues involved and Dahl's has threatened to remove the dumpster, if this activity does not cease. Several organizations and individuals are willing to pick up your deposit cans and bottles and use the refunds for charitable purposes. Please call me and I can give you contacts.

I attended the E. 3rd Street Transient Rental hearing.

I attended the City Council work session.

I talked with a Business owner regarding the Food and Beverage Tax. The quarterly report will be filed and a payment on the taxes made.

Progress continues to be made on the Blackberry abatement. Several more lots have been cleared.

I attended the City Council meeting.

Letters will go out this month to property owners that have English Ivy growing up trees. The City is asking that they simply cut the English Ivy stalks at the base of the tree. This will stop the flowering and seed production. It does not solve the English Ivy problem, but it slows down the seed propagation.

Scotch Broom is in full bloom and easily recognizable. It will start forming seeds that are viable for eighty years. Now is a perfect time for pulling the plants roots and all. The weed wrenches are available at City Hall, free of charge. If you have questions, please contact Wally Orchard, Chair of our Yachats Invasive Plant Sub-Committee or myself.

I continue to monitor several areas where we have had problems in the past. We are at the height of the growing season. I do a daily drive through of Quiet Water and walk the River Trail at least once a week. I noticed a small area that had been mowed on the river - side of the trail. The nearest occupants were not in residency, but I will contact them, when they are in town.

I have found and removed several black garbage bags of compostable yard debris dumped off the side of Overlook Drive. This makes no sense. The contents would have composted within months, the plastic, maybe never.

The transient situation has flared up again. There have been no incidents reported, but the number has increased after a lull. I have noticed a pattern with several of them. The Central Coast seems to be their route. They move between Yachats and Newport on a pretty regular basis. I have received reports from residents and business owners of suspected sleeping areas. I have notified the property owners and if needed the Sheriff's Office.

Thanks to Councilor Dunn's effort, there may be signage in the County Transit buses that indicate there is no bus service south of Yachats. We are the end of the line. We all have sympathy for these individuals and their circumstances, but we don't really have the services, here in Yachats or in the County, to deal with this influx.

I inspected several new Transient Rental properties this month. There are well over 100 such properties in the City. The City does collect Transient Rental tax on these properties, but there is a negative impact on the neighborhood.

There were more people in town this Memorial Day weekend than I have ever seen. It was like a July 4th, La De Da event. Multiple events at the Commons and Lion's Club concentrated people and vehicles in that area. One handicapped parking issue was resolved by allowing the disabled veteran vendor to take my parking space and free up the designated space.

This concentration of events seems to benefit everyone, the event promoters as well as the local businesses. Parking continues to be an issue, but with fair weather, it is good to

see the streets filled with people walking and taking in all of the events. No other problems were reported.

Donald W. Niskanen
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Yachats