



What does Quality of Life mean? Simply put, it is the right you and your family have to live without your well-being and peace being compromised by other people or your environment.

Your police department takes quality of life problems seriously. Everyone has the right to live a peaceful and safe life. This brochure will outline the most common quality of life violations.

### ANIMALS

Pet owners are required, by law, to take care of their pets. Dogs should not be allowed to run loose (except on the owner's property) and should always be on a leash when taken for walks. It is a law that dog owners have to pick up their dogs' feces when they take their dogs for a walk, and they must keep their yards clear of feces. This law is designed to help stop the spread of disease and insects.



### PROPERTY

Writing graffiti and spray painting on public property is against the law. Doing it on private property where it is visible to the public is also forbidden. When this occurs, it not only defaces the property, but it puts a blighted look on the neighborhood.

### DUMPING/LITTERING

Dumping any kind of rubbish on public or private property is against the law. It not only looks bad, but it can very easily become a health hazard. Alleys should be kept clear of debris for vehicular traffic. Littering from a car, which means *anything* tossed out of a car for disposal, *including cigarette butts*, is always prohibited.



### SOLICITING

Anyone who solicits has to have a license issued by the City to do so (except bonafide religious groups). If someone comes to your door to solicit, ask to see his/her license. If he/she has none, close the door and call the police. Solicitors on sidewalks also have to have a license. Soliciting in the roadway is strictly forbidden at all times, even if the person has a license.

### LIQUOR

Drinking alcoholic beverages on public property (such as streets and sidewalks) is prohibited, except where proper licenses are issued by the City. Nothing will make a neighborhood go downhill any faster than allowing people to sit in public view and drink. Also, someone who gets drunk is at a greater risk of injuring himself or someone else.



### MORALS

There are some people in this world that don't care if they insult or embarrass others by a public display of poor judgement in moral behavior. Often times, this type of behavior goes hand-in-hand with liquor and drug problems. Some of the most common moral violations that occur are: urinating in public, lewd and indecent conduct (including exposing, improper touching and hand gestures), public solicitation (prostitution), pornography, keeping a house of prostitution, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

### PEACE AND ORDER

This is probably the most common quality of life problem that people encounter. Included is *general peace disturbance* (disrupting the peace of a neighborhood, which usually entails people yelling, screaming, fighting, or hanging around the outside of bars after closing times), *individual peace disturbance*, *unnecessary noise* (usually by radio in houses and cars, loud exhaust noise, fireworks, etc.), and *demonstrating on the street* (**any** action by an individual or group of individuals that stops vehicular traffic or impedes pedestrian traffic).

### WEAPONS

The most common violation here is discharging a firearm; not necessarily shooting at someone or something, but just shooting a gun to celebrate an event or testing a gun to see if it works. Not only does this disrupt your peaceful life, but also it is very dangerous. The bullet shot from the gun has to land somewhere, which could be in a house or in a person's body.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

There are other quality of life violations that occur. Here are some of them:

**Begging:** Begging is prohibited anywhere, anytime. One cannot get a license to beg. It is also against the law to promote begging by giving a beggar anything of value.

**Yard sales:** There are restrictions on yard sales. They have to be conducted in the back yard, only, and no one can have more than two a year.

**Ethnic/racial intimidation:** In a nutshell, this is any person who commits, threatens, or attempts any act against anyone else's property or person when the act is motivated by race, sex, age, etc.

**Fireworks:** This is a huge problem around the Fourth of July. It is illegal in the City of St. Louis to discharge or even possess fireworks **of any kind**, including sparklers. Not only can people get hurt, but also fires can easily start. The only persons allowed to discharge fireworks are those with permits.

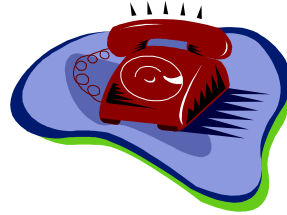
**Open burning:** Burning of trash, grass, tree limbs, etc. is strictly forbidden in the City of St. Louis. Not only can the smoke be a health hazard, but also fires can easily start.

**Open storage:** No one can store junk in his/her open yard. Most notable violations of this are junk cars and car parts, discarded major appliances, wood and lumber, etc.

If, and when, you see a violation that you believe is interfering with your quality of life, notify the Police Department, your Neighborhood Stabilization Officer, or one of

the City agencies that will be able to help take care of your problem.

**HELPFUL NUMBERS**



**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Emergency... 9-1-1**

**Non-emergency ....231-1212**

**South Patrol..... 444-0100**

Districts 1,2,3

**Central Patrol..... 444-2500**

Districts 4,5,9

**North Patrol..... 444-0001**

Districts 6,7,8

**Neighborhood Stabilization Team**

**622-4628**

**Animal Regulation..... 353-5858**

**Board of Alderman .....622-3287**

**Citizen's Service Bureau..... 622-4800**

**City Refuse Division .....622-4800**

**Operation Brightside .....772-4646**

**Operation Safestreet..... 622-3444**

*Compliments of*  
**South Patrol Division**



*Designed and written by*  
**District One Public Affairs**



**QUALITY OF LIFE**



**A Guide to More Peaceful Living**