

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Presentation to the Arlington Civic Federation



ARLINGTON VOTERS

ARLINGTON COUNTY BOARD

COUNTY MANAGER

Arlington Economic Development

Department of Libraries

Department of Human Services

Department of Community
Planning, Housing

And Development

Department of Environmental Services

Department of Management & Finance

Fire Department

Human Resources

Office of Emergency Management

Police Department

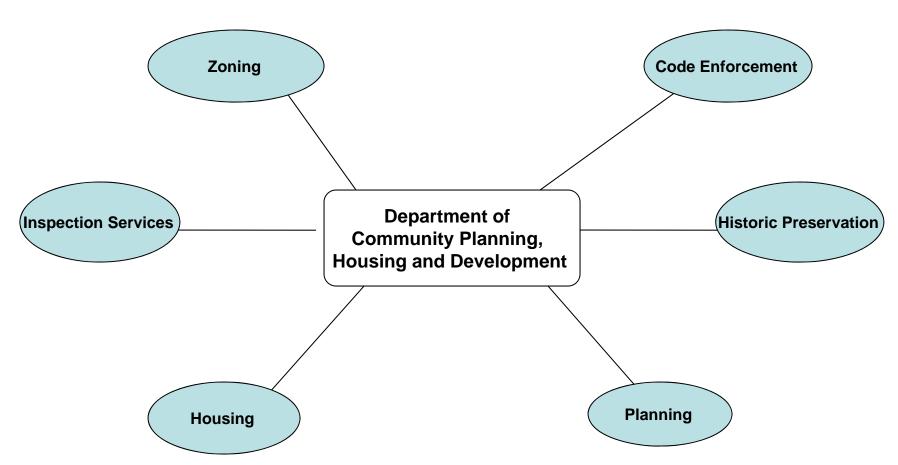
Department of Parks Recreation & Cultural Resources

Department of Technology Services

www.arlingtonva.us



Organizing for Code Enforcement



FY 2000 and FY 2010



- Code Enforcement 10 inspectors + program manager, support staff
- Zoning 2 site plan inspectors
- Historic Preservation 1 inspector
- Housing 1 inspector
- New computer system for Y2K

- Code Enforcement 10 inspectors + supervisor, team leaders, support staff.
- Zoning 5 inspectors for all zoning matters except preservation
- Historic Preservation one inspector
- Housing one inspector
- Computer system enhanced with mobile technology, cell phones, cameras.
- Certification requirements

What Do We Cover?



- Zoning Ordinance Uses of building and land; site plans during and after construction (Civil Penalties)
- VA Maintenance Code –Existing buildings (Criminal Penalties)
- Garbage, refuse, weeds (Civil Penalties, Property Clean-up)
- Noise Control Permitted decibel levels (Criminal Penalties)

Special Programs & Statistics



- Multi-Family Property Full Code Inspections – 1,344 units in FY '09
- Multi-Family Common Area
 Inspections 141 properties in FY '09
- Property Clean-ups 41 were cleaned-up and 81 were cut in FY '09.
 Cost = over \$100,000 per year
- Blighted Properties 5 were addressed in FY 09
- Hoarding Task Force Currently over

6

Internal Partners



- Fire Department Existing Structures;
 Full Code Inspections; Hoarding Task
 Force
- Police Noise Complaints
- DES Construction in the right-ofway; Erosion and Sediment control; Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance inspections
- DHS Environmental Health (restaurants); Hoarding Task Force;

External Partners



- Community
- Civic Associations
- County Commissions, especially Housing and Tenant – Landlord Commissions
- Magistrate and Courts

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Initiating the Complaint Process

- www.arlingtonva.us/departments/CPHD/
- isd/code_enforcement/pdf/investigation.
 pdf

- Call 703-228-3232 OR 703-228-3883
- Regardless of whether the call comes into Code Enforcement or Zoning, it is assigned based on the nature of the complaint to the right office and inspector

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Complaint Process

- We need an address and as much detail as you can provide
- We need contact information for you if you want to be updated
- Complainant names are NOT shared, even in a Freedom of Information Act request



After the Complaint is Made

- Complaint received by phone or email typically.
- Case is opened on the Permitting system which is used by Code Enforcement, Zoning, Historic Preservation, Housing and other County agencies
- Information on compliance process and timing can be provided verbally or in writing



After the Complaint is Made

- Inspector will go to premises and evaluate conditions relative to the complaint.
- If unable to gain entry, will send written request for inspection.
- Inspection may be conducted at night, depending on issue.
- Inspector advises person in charge of violation(s), if any, and discusses timeline for compliance. Photos may be taken for case record.



After the Complaint is Made

- Case record is updated at each inspection.
- After expiration of compliance period, inspector returns to verify compliance.
- If compliance is achieved, the case is closed.
- If compliance is not achieved, inspector will move to next level of enforcement—i.e. monetary ticket, written Order to Correct conditions, Summons.

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Gaining Compliance

- Person in violation may request an extension of the compliance deadline
- They may appeal the violation to the local Building Code Board of Appeals (VA Maintenance Code) or Board of Zoning Appeals (Zoning)
- They seek approval through a site plan amendment or use permit (County Board) or Certificate of Appropriateness (Historic Affairs & Landmark Review Board)

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Present & Future Challenges

- Attracting and retaining qualified staff
- Meeting community expectations
- Leveraging staff resources with appropriate technology resources
- Federal and State legislative mandates
- Keeping local codes current
- Combating "urban legends"

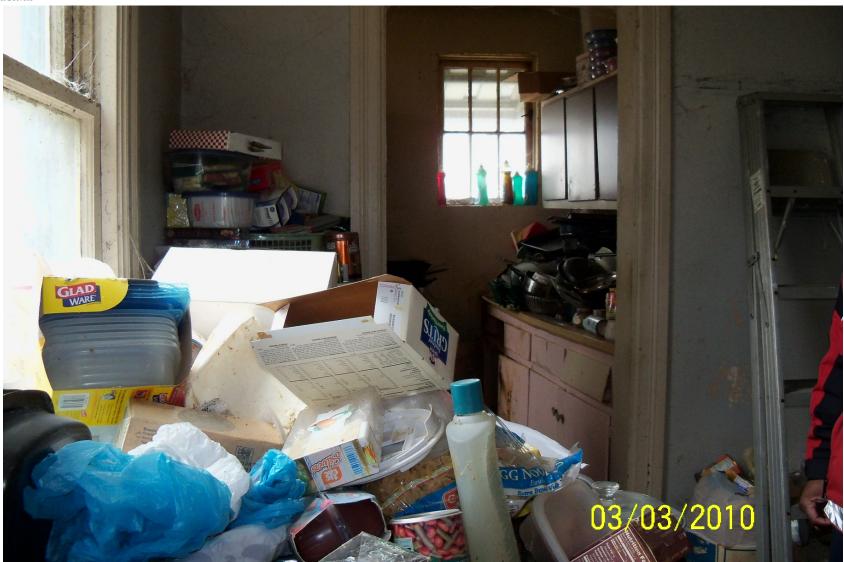
HOARDING CASE





HOARDING CASE







HOARDING CASE



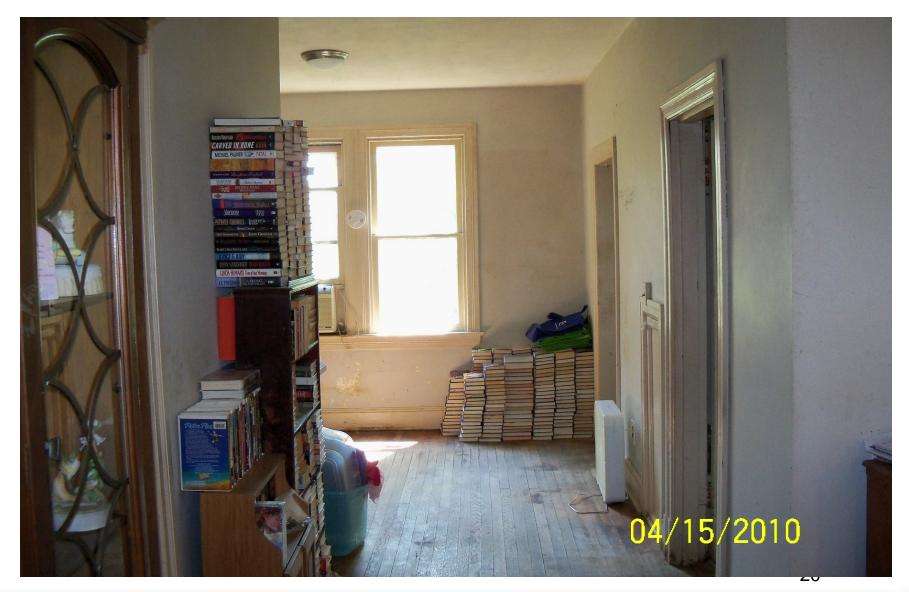
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HOARDING CASE - AFTER





HOARDING CASE - AFTER



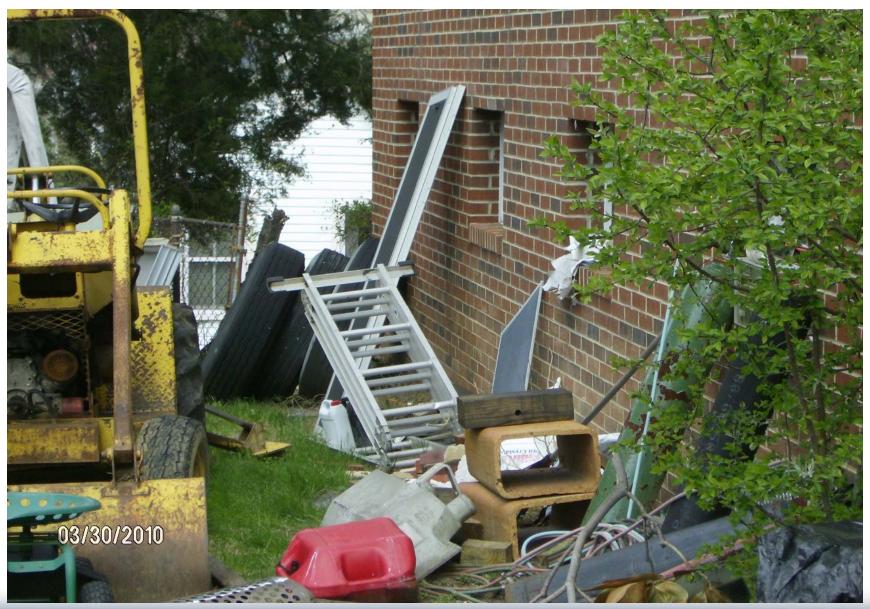


TRASH AND DEBRIS





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INOPERABLE VEHICLES





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OVERGROWN GRASS AND VEGETATION





VIRGINIA MAINTENANCE CODE VIOLATIONS



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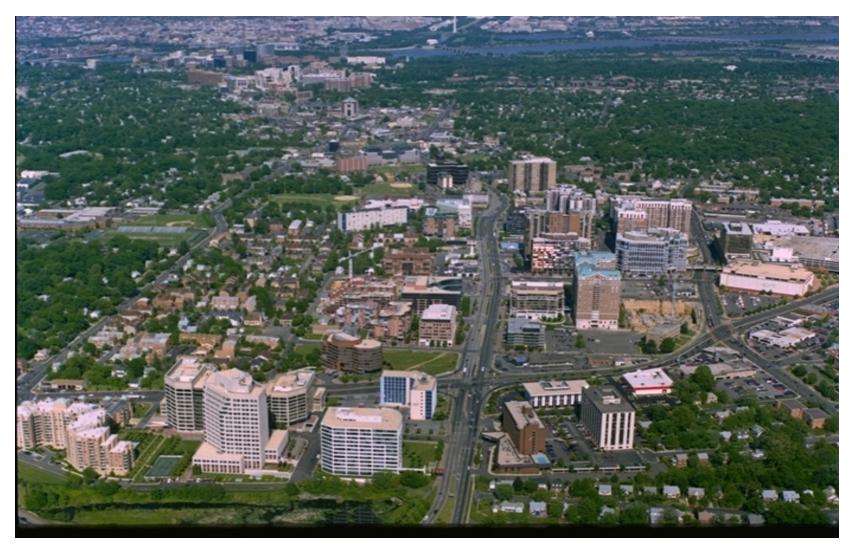


VIRGINIA MAINTENANCE CODE VIOLATIONS





414 Site Plans Since 1962



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Site Plan Inspections









For More Information



• codeenforcement@arlingtonva.us

www.arlingtonva.us\departments\cphd