

Garage/Yard Sales are regulated by both the Nuisance and Zoning Sections of your City's Municipal Code.....

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HERE

- ⇒ The sale event must consist solely for the sale of personal property accumulated by the seller during the course of ordinary residential living.
- ⇒ Any individual seller, household, home address, group, or family shall only be allowed three sales per calendar year.
- ⇒ Each sale shall last no more than two consecutive days, beginning no earlier than 8:00am and ending no later than 5:00pm.
- ⇒ Only personal property may be sold. New or secondhand goods obtained for resale purposes are prohibited.
- ⇒ Signs are allowed as long as they conform with the requirements under WSMC 17.33 and 17.39.
- ⇒ No live animals, food, tobacco, alcohol, weapons, or controlled substances shall be offered for sale.
- ⇒ Sale items shall not be displayed or stored on sidewalks, streets, or other public rights-of-way.

City of West Sacramento

Community Development Department  
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West Sacramento CA 95691

# Garage/ Yard Sales

Having a garage or yard sale is a great way to re-purpose unused or stored personal items. Doing so appropriately ensures your event is safe, successful, and considerate of your neighbors and neighborhood. Doing so unlawfully may subject you to fines, fees, and penalties.





## Do I need a City permit to have a yard sale?

The City of West Sacramento recognizes the benefits of garage or yard sales, and supports them when done appropriately. The City does not currently require a permit for these types of events. Yard sale signs, when displayed properly, are also exempt from sign permitting requirements.

Although the City does issue encroachment permits, conditional use permits, special event permits, and other exceptions to various zoning codes or ordinances, applications will not be accepted, considered, or approved for the purpose of yard sales.

On occasion, there have been residents that collect items over a period of time for the sole purpose of selling from home. Other residents have been known to list running on-line sales of items. Both instances may be interpreted as home based businesses or home occupations, which require **prior** approval from the Planning Division and a City business license. There are additional requirements and restrictions that must be met regarding these residents. For the purpose of this hand-out, they do not meet the yard sale definition.

## How do I advertise my sale? Can I use signs?

There are many ways to advertise a yard sale event in advance. Some of the most common are placing an ad in your local newspaper or Pennysaver, or posting notices on-line to Facebook, Craigslist, or any other web based classifieds site. When posting, be sure to note firm start times and discourage “early birds”.

On the day of your event, you may post signs with the following limitations.

- ⇒ A temporary sign may be displayed on any private property provided it is completely within the property, is not illuminated, and does not exceed six square feet in area.
- ⇒ A directional sign may be displayed on other private properties as listed above with written property owner permission. **Beware**, a vacant undeveloped lot does not imply property owner permission.

Appropriately placed signs may be displayed overnight during the sale event, but must be removed immediately after the event is finished.



**Prohibited signs** include those placed on utility poles, street signs, traffic signals, medians, sidewalks, or other City owned or maintained properties and are enforced vigorously.

Besides being immediately removed by City staff or volunteers and thereby limiting your exposure, illegally placed signs can also result in penalties of \$100 to \$500 per sign, per day.

## Are there other things to consider when planning my sale?

A common complaint we receive about yard sales is regarding the disruption of the neighborhood due to the traffic and parking congestion. You can follow all the requirements of the municipal code and still be requested to close your sale if it results in a verified traffic hazard. Be cognizant of your neighbors by giving them advance notice of the event and engage in suggestions that may mitigate on-street parking problems or inattentive drivers.

Another consideration is to ensure your property is kept clean and organized before, during, and after the event. If you're having a 2-day garage sale, it is understood that items may be left out overnight. But items that have not sold, must be removed from view immediately after the event is finished.

## Contact Us

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