

Noise nuisance

Power boat engines on premises

Owners or repairers of power boat engines may run them for testing or maintenance, such as flushing the engine. This noise can disturb residents, disrupt sleep and interfere with normal daily activities.

The law

Queensland's *Environmental Protection Act 1994* includes noise limits for operating* power boat engines. Council is legally required to enforce these limits. If issues cannot be resolved and complaints are ongoing, Council will investigate.

If a power boat engine exceeds noise limits, Council may issue the owner or operator with a fine to the value of 15 penalty units (individual) or 75 penalty units (corporation), a direction notice or prosecute.

*operating includes flushing the engine.

Allowable noise limits

Fines may be issued if noise from a power boat engine can be clearly heard at a neighbouring property between the following hours:

- before 7am or after 7pm on a week day or Saturday
- before 8am or after 6.30pm on Sundays and public holidays

How to reduce noise

Limit hours of use

Talk to neighbours about when the noise disturbs them, which for most people is at night or early in the morning when they are trying to sleep.

Choose location carefully

Carry out testing and maintenance away from areas such as bedroom windows and offices. An enclosed garage or shed may be a suitable option depending on its location. If extensive running of a motor is required, consider an alternative suitable location.

Complaints

In most cases, the best way to resolve a noise issue is through polite and productive communication between yourself and the person causing the noise nuisance. If you haven't already spoken with the person about the issue, we strongly recommend you try this approach first.

You could also download the Environmental Nuisance letter from our [website](#), and place it in their letterbox. If you have concerns about approaching or entering communication, or these measures have proven ineffective, you can lodge a complaint with Council by:



Phone: (07) 5329 6500



Email: mail@noosa.qld.gov.au



Council Office: 9 Pelican Street, Tewantin

You will need to provide:

- your name, address and phone number (kept confidential)
- details of the noise emission, including source address and the date and time it starts

Council will send you additional information and a diary to complete and formalise the complaint. Correspondence will also be sent to your neighbour to advise them of the issue and requirements.