



CITY OF KENNER

News Release

E. "BEN" ZAHN III
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 17, 2018

CODE INSPECTORS FIND 268 VIOLATIONS DURING THREE SWEEPS

Kenner, LA. – Inspectors with the Code Enforcement Inspection Division uncovered 268 violations during three recent code sweeps in the city.

One sweep took place on Emerson Drive, Furman Circle and Northwestern Drive; a second involved Clemson Place and Duke Drive and the third was on Vouray Drive and Loire Drive.

In the sweep of Emerson Drive, Furman Circle and Northwestern Drive, inspectors noted the following violations:

Address required	2
Abandoned refrigerator	1
Abandoned vehicles	10
Building maintenance required	9
Fence repair required	9
High grass and weeds	6
Illegal discharge	1
Litter/debris	12
Cars parked on grass	11
Stagnant water/mosquitoes	3
Repair/demolition required	2
Unsafe electrical conditions	1

In the sweep of Clemson Place and Duke Drive, inspectors reported the following violations:

Address required	15
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Abandoned refrigerator	3
Abandoned vehicles	23
Building permit required	3
Building maintenance required	10
Soffit/fascia issues	11
Fence repair required	16
High grass and weeds	9
Litter/debris	26
Cars parked on grass	7
Unsafe electrical conditions	7
Major repairs required	1
Rats and rodents	2

In the code sweep of Vouray Drive and the 4300 block of Loire Drive, inspectors reported the following violations:

Abandoned vehicles	17
Address required	2
Building permit required	2
Building maintenance required	11
Fence repair required	6
Garbage cans	1
Soffit/fascia issues	4
High grass and weeds	3
Litter/debris	15
Repair or demolition required	1
Unsafe electrical conditions	5
Cars parked on grass	1

Owners of the properties are notified by warning or summonses, depending on the violation, and abandoned vehicles are tagged to be towed if not removed or brought into compliance within a period of time. Property owners appear in court and are ordered to comply with the city's code laws. Violators can face both fines and court costs. Even if violators come into compliance, they are placed on probation and can be recharged under the original offense if there is a repeat violation.

In the three sweeps, a total of 70 warning violations and 29 court summons were issued.

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District 1 Councilman Gregory Carroll, who represents areas where several of the sweeps were conducted, noted that residents and business owners play a very important role.

"Those who live and work in a neighborhood are the true experts of where blight exists," Carroll said. "So I continue to urge people to call and let us know about any area where blight is a problem."

Some of the code sweeps took place in District 4, and Councilman George Branigan said one very important element in the fight against blight is aggressiveness.

"Property owners need to know that these sweeps are continuing and they could be targeted next," Branigan said. "We cannot stop until we have eliminated blight in District 4 and throughout the rest of the city."

Mayor Ben Zahn praised the teamwork involved as the city strongly sends out the message that blight will not be tolerated.

"Of course, the team includes our Code Enforcement Department," Zahn said. "But our residents, members of the City Council and Police Chief Mike Glaser are equally important. When we work together AS ONE, we can do great things."

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