

Polk County Sound Equipment Application and Permit

Permit No. _____
(official use only)

Permit Type Requested

Starting Date: _____ Ending Date: _____ (see below for time limits on Type A and B Permits)

Hours of Operation:

- Type A Permit ⁽¹⁾ 1 day or less – (\$95.00) _____
- Type B Permit ⁽²⁾ Over 1 day to 1 week – (\$137.00) _____
- Over 1 week to 1 year – (\$280.00) _____

Location where the sound equipment will be used

Business/Organization/Event or Person: _____

Address/Location: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Event Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Sound Pressure Level Information

A. For Type A Permit Only:

Decibel output in dB(A)'s at a distance of 50 feet from the sound equipment. ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾ _____ db(A)

The address of the residence nearest the sound equipment and the approximate decibels in dB(A)'s at the real property boundary of the private residence. ⁽¹⁾

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Estimated Decibels: _____ db(A)

B. For Type B Permit Only: (sound trucks only)

The approximate decibel output in dB(A)'s at a distance of 100 feet from the sound equipment. ⁽²⁾ _____ db(A)

C. Purpose for which the sound equipment will be used.

D. General description of the sound equipment to be used. Include license number of the vehicle if the sound equipment is to be operated from the vehicle.

Applicant Certification

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct, and that I have read and understand all the conditions and requirements of law pertaining to the subject of this application.

Printed Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Signature: _____

Official Use Only

Payment Receipt#: _____

Issued By: _____

Date Issued: _____

Title: _____

Zoning District of Use: _____

- (1) Type A permit general standards. A type A permit may be issued for sound equipment emitting music or human speech registering not more than 60 dB(A)'s when measured at the real property boundary of the private residence alleging a noise disturbance when known, or at the real property boundary of the private residence nearest the sound equipment, or registering not more than 100 dB(A)'s a distance of 50 feet from the sound equipment. Sound equipment permitted under a Type A permit may be used only on property zoned GC- General Commercial, LI- Light Industrial or HI- Heavy Industrial and which is more than 100 feet from any previously established residence or more than 100 feet from a residential zoning district and only between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M. Sunday through Thursday, and between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 12:30 A.M. on Friday and Saturday.
- (2) Type B permit sound trucks general standards. Sound trucks may be operated only under a type B permit. A type B permit may be issued for sound equipment mounted upon a motor vehicle and intended for use upon county streets provided that the sound equipment emits only music or human speech registering not more than 80 dB(A)'s when measured at a distance of 100 feet from the sound equipment. Sound equipment permitted under a type B permit may be used only in nonresidential areas from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.
- (3) No person shall operate, play, or permit the operation or playing of any radio, television, phonograph, drum, musical instrument, sound amplifier, or similar device which produces, reproduces, or amplifies sound in any place of public entertainment at a sound level greater than 90 dB(A) as read by the slow response on a sound level meter at any point therein that is normally occupied by a customer, unless a conspicuous and legible sign is located outside such place, near each public entrance, stating "WARNING: SOUND LEVELS WITHIN MAY CAUSE PERMANENT HEARING IMPAIRMENT".

Instructions for Polk County Sound Equipment Application and Permit

The below questions must be answered to determine if a sound permit is needed:

- (1) Is the use in a HI - Heavy Industrial, LI - Light Industrial or GC - General Commercial district?
- (2) Is the business at least 100' from a previously established residence or residential district?
- (3) Can amplified sound be heard from the R.O.W. or other public area?
- (4) Is the permit for amplified sound?

If yes to all four of the above questions then a sound permit is needed.

If the business is in a GC, LI or HI district but within 100' from a residential district or residence, a permit shall not be issued. The use is limited to the Table 1 standards.

Permit Type Requested

1. Dates when sound equipment permit is needed.
2. Check permit type requested –
 - a. Type A sound equipment for places of businesses in GC, LI and HI districts only. No permits required for residential districts (ie. block parties) - they must follow Table 1 in ordinance.
 - b. Type B Only for sound trucks (ie. PA systems mounted on a truck for a political campaign)
3. Check the fee amount for the length of time the permit is needed. Sound equipment permits charged fees based on three time periods. A time period such as 9:00 AM Friday to 12:30 AM Saturday is one day.
4. Hours of Operation is the time period when the sound equipment will be in use.

Location where the sound equipment will be used

5. Self-explanatory

Sound Pressure Level Information

6. Complete A or B depending on the permit type. See hour limits and decibel limits in numbered footnotes. Beyond the permit time frames, the sound produced must not be louder at the receiving zoning district than the decibel limits in Table 1.
7. Enter the address of the closest residence and estimated decibels.
8. Complete item B if the permit is for a sound truck.
9. Items C and D - Self-explanatory

Application Certification

10. Contact information and signature required

Official Use Only

11. The permit may be issued by the Planning and Development Manager.
12. Fill in title, date issued, zoning district and receipt number.
13. Enter in a permit number at the top right of the form. Keep log of permits issued and assign next sequential number to the permit to be issued. Make 2 copies of the approved permit – one for the applicant and one to be sent to the Sheriff's Office by building clerk. The original signed application is for our records.