

HEAT PUMP INSTALLATION HANDOUT

The City of Everett requires construction permits for the placement of all heat pumps. The location and noise created by the heat pump are regulated by ordinance.

Permits

The City of Everett Building Code requires electrical and mechanical permits for the installation, reinstallation or relocation of heat pumps. The heat pump must also be inspected and have final approval prior to use.

Location

The Everett Land Use code prohibits the location of heat pumps within required front or side yard setbacks. A site plan showing the proposed location of new, relocated or replaced heat pumps is required to be submitted with the permit application for review.

Noise Control

Noise is regulated by Chapter 20.08 of the Everett Municipal Code. The maximum permitted noise level for heat pumps is measured at the property line of the receiving lot, not at the pump itself. For residential properties, this means that your heat pump may not create a noise level greater than 55 decibels from 7 am to 10 pm and 45 decibels from 10 pm to 7 am as measured from any neighboring lot. Noise is not measured by the City of Everett during the permitting or inspection process. This means that the heat pump may receive all required permits, inspections and approvals and still be out of compliance with the City of Everett Noise Ordinance. It is the responsibility of the owner of the heat pump to verify that the noise created by the unit does not exceed the maximum allowable limits. Owners may contact their mechanical contractor or an acoustical engineer for questions regarding compliance.

Maintenance

Sounds with a narrow frequency range are common from fans and motors. These noises can greatly increase without regular maintenance to replace worn bearings, limited life parts, or tighten loose screws that create buzzing or rattling noises. It is the owner's responsibility to maintain the unit during its operating life in a manner that is in compliance with Everett's noise ordinance.