The Benefits of Mediation

Mediation: Formal Systems:
Informal Formal
Win/win Win/lose
Quick Drawn out
Cooperative Adversarial
Voluntary Enforced
Builds Can damage relationships
Parties help create solutions Someone else decides

Other selected brochures and information available from Code Enforcement:

- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Checklist For Good Neighbors
- Clean Air - Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
- Commercial Signs
- Dispute Resolution Center
- Enforcement Procedures
- Frequently Asked Questions - Code Enforcement
- Graffiti
- Hoarding
- Home Occupations
- Junk Vehicles
- Minor Home Repair - Senior & Disabled
- Mold - Environmental Protection Agency resource, references and tips on prevention and remediation
- Neighborhood Issues
- Nuisance Violations
- Outdoor Burning is Out - Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
- Pet Waste - Snohomish Health District
- Rats: Snohomish Health District
- Snohomish County Housing Authority Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program
- Summary of the Residential Landlord-Tenant Act of Washington
- Tents, Canopies and Containers
- Trees
- Vehicles
- West Nile Virus - Snohomish Health District

Development Services
Office Hours:
Monday—Friday
8:00am-4:30pm
Excluding Holidays

Phone: 425-771-0220
Fax: 425-771-0221
x 1716 - Code Enforcement
www.ci.edmonds.wa.us
codeenforcement@ci.edmonds.wa.us

121 5th Avenue North
Edmonds, WA. 98020
NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

Tips to prevent conflicts
A neighborhood issue may not be covered by law. The fundamental way to prevent conflicts with neighbors is to be a good neighbor yourself. Here are some helpful tips:

• Meet your neighbors.
• Observe the Golden Rule, “treat others as you would like to be treated”.
• Keep your neighbors informed about building, tree cutting or other disruptive activities at your property.
• Be considerate of differences in age, ethnic background, years in the neighborhood, etc.
• Consider your neighbor’s point of view (literally). Keep areas in other’s views presentable.
• Scenic views are also an important quality to living in Edmonds. Be considerate of neighbor’s views when developing fences, hedges or other landscaping.
• Understand that actions taken on your property affect your neighbor’s property value and property enjoyment.
• Be respectful, calm and listen well.

Many neighborhood conflicts and land use issues can be resolved among neighbors. Communication is the key to resolving conflict. Talking things over is the best way to handle problems and avoid enforcement or the courts.

What is Mediation?
Mediation is a voluntary, confidential and flexible process that helps you discuss difficult issues and develop your own solutions.

Advantages of Mediation
Fast  Flexible  Fair
Confidential  Less Stressful

What happens when communication breaks down?
Sometimes neighbors reach a point where communication breaks down. When that happens, mediation can help.

Hi Neighbor. I’m building a shed in my backyard. I checked with the City and they said I don’t need a building permit if it’s under 200 square feet and meets height requirements. But they said it must still meet the setback requirements, so it won’t be right next to our shared fence. If you hear me hammering, that’s what’s going on.

The Dispute Resolution Center of Snohomish and Island Counties
For mediation inquiries, City of Edmonds residents can contact:
Phone: 425-339-1335
800-280-4770