

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q. What constitutes as a blighted premise?**

A. Any structure or lot on which the Blight Enforcement or any combination of the Building Official, Fire Marshal, City Planner, the Chief of Police, Zoning Officer or the Director of Health or their designee has identified as meeting the following:

- A) One or more conditions contrary to building, zoning, fire, housing or health codes that pose a significant risk to health and safety; or
- B) Four or more occurrences in a one-year period of any violations of building, fire, zoning, housing or health codes; or
- C) More than two blighted conditions that do not pose a significant risk to health or safety as identified by the Code Enforcement Officer(s); or
- D) Repeated documentation of illegal or nuisance activity by the Police Department.

## **Q. How do I report a complaint?**

A. A blight complaint form may be obtained in the Land Use Office, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of Torrington City Hall or may be submitted using the online complaint form on the City website at <https://www.torringtonct.org/administration-mayors-office/blight-task-force>

Please contact the Blight Enforcement Officer at 860-489-2221 or [ashley\\_clement@torringtonct.org](mailto:ashley_clement@torringtonct.org) to report a complaint. All blight complaints must be in writing.

## **Q. What happens after I make a complaint?**

A. Once a complaint is received, Code Enforcement Officials will visit the property and investigate for violations of the Property Maintenance ordinance. If a violation is found, the owner will be notified and given an opportunity to remediate the violations. If no action is taken by the property owner, the City can choose to pursue the violations in either a civil or criminal format, up to and including fines for continued violations.

## **Q. Can I find out the status of my complaint?**

A. Yes, please call the Blight Enforcement Officer Ashley Clement at 860-489-2221 or email [Ashley\\_clement@torringtonct.org](mailto:Ashley_clement@torringtonct.org)

## **Q. How do I read the ordinance?**

A. The ordinance can be found at the following link [https://library.municode.com/ct/torrington/ordinances/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=850746](https://library.municode.com/ct/torrington/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=850746)

**Q. How long do I have to clean up my property?**

A. Per the ordinance, an owner will be given a reasonable amount of time, as determined by the Blight Enforcement Officer to remedy any violations. Fifteen days is generally the grace period for resolving violations. The blight enforcement officer may grant extensions to this period at his or her discretion as the situation warrants.