

## Noise from Construction

On August 30, 2002 a revision to Article 23, Belmont Noise-By-law was formally approved. This revision includes substantial changes with regard to construction noise, which anyone receiving a building permit should be aware of.

### Summary of the revised by-law:

Construction is defined as any activity requiring a building permit. Construction activity is permitted between 7 AM and 8 PM on weekdays and Saturdays provided that the sound levels from both impact and non-impact devices meet specific sound level criteria. The penalty for violations is \$50 for the first offense and increases to \$300 as the number of violations increase.

### Important considerations:

1. Construction is noisy. Informing your neighbors about what is being done and approximately how long it will take will go a long way toward reducing their annoyance with your construction activity.
2. Encourage your contractors to consider the ramifications of noise when they set up their equipment. Would placing a saw in the rear of the property (or inside the garage) make life easier for the neighbors?
3. It is imperative that the property owner informs all their subcontractors about the noise by-law. Violations will be added to the first offense, even if different subcontractors are involved.
4. The property owner is responsible for all violations that occur. The fines are assessed against the property owner.

The Noise By-law is posted on the town website: [www.town.belmont.ma.us](http://www.town.belmont.ma.us).

Look under: Bulletin Board – Public Documents – Town Govt. Documents – General Bylaws – Article 23.

The sections relevant to construction noise include: 23.2, 23.5, and 23.9.