

The Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations (2000)

The Regulations sets out that:

- A person or business must apply for approval from the EPA before operating any sound-making device in a public place, e.g., anyone holding a barbecue or open air party, the owner of a hotel who uses generators to supply electricity etc.
- Construction activities, except public works, may be stopped during certain hours of the day on the complaint of a neighbour.
- Operators of entertainment business are required to soundproof buildings if operating beyond midnight.
- No person is allowed to operate any sound-making device or equipment in a public place between the hours of 23:00 h and 07:00 h, except with the prior written permission of the EPA.
- Anyone affected by noise has the right to file a complaint with the EPA.
- Any building, vehicle or private premises should not exceed the following decibel levels:

Category	Day time limit	Night time limit
Residential	75	60
Industrial	100	80
Commercial	80	65
Construction	90	75
Transportation	100	80
Recreational	100	100 – 70
Institutional	75	60
Educational	75	60

Anyone involved in an activity causing sound levels above those specified in table above will be committing an offence and liable to a fine varying from \$80,000 to \$750,000, or imprisonment of not more than a year, depending on the offence.

To make a report on noise nuisance you can call 225-6044/225-5471/225-5467 or email to epa@epaguyana.org or eit.epaguyana@gmail.com.

Sources: <http://www.epa.gov/air/noise.html>; <http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/causes-and-effects-of-noise-pollution.php>

Share your ideas and questions by sending letters to: “Our Earth, Our Environment”, C/O EIT Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Ganges Street, Sophia, GEORGETOWN, or email us at eit.epaguyana@gmail.com