



## How many plugs in one outlet are too many?

One of the most common causes for electrical fires and electrocutions at home are worn out or faulty outlets. Inspect electrical outlets for damage or deterioration; make certain the covers are intact and there aren't any exposed wires or gaps between the outlet and the wall. Cracks or holes should be replaced or repaired immediately.

Never plug more than two appliances into one outlet or "piggyback" appliances on extension cords or wall outlets.

Major appliances should be plugged directly into the wall outlet (not extension cord) as they are heavy power users (refrigerators, stoves, air conditioners, etc.).

**Call a licensed electrician or your landlord immediately if you experience any of the following:**

- Flickering lights
- Circuit breakers trip or fuses blow often
- Crackling, buzzing or sizzling is heard from outlets
- Cords are warm to the touch

**Do you have a complaint regarding a property located within the Village of Ossining?**

***We are happy to hear your concerns.***

You may file your complaint in one of two ways:

**Call the Building Department office at (914) 941-3199**

*or*

**Visit the Village website at [www.villageofossining.org](http://www.villageofossining.org)**

When you call to register a complaint, please give us the address you are calling about, and specific information as to your complaint (who, what, where, etc.).

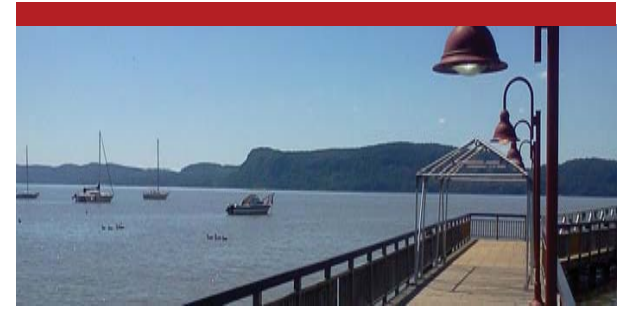
You are welcome to leave your name and contact information; we are also happy to register your complaint anonymously.

Visit [www.villageofossining.org](http://www.villageofossining.org) to access the Village Code, or the NYS Department of State Codes Division (2015 version) for the most updated codes.

**The Village of Ossining aggressively enforces the ordinances designed to promote the health, safety and "quality of life" of our residents. Violations may well result in the issuance of Court appearance tickets and substantial fines.**

**The Building Department is open to the public Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm**

***This brochure can be used as a guide only. It may not include all situations and we recommend contacting our office at (914) 941-3199 or via our website at [www.villageofossining.org](http://www.villageofossining.org)***



## **Resident's Guide to Code Enforcement in the Village of Ossining**



## **Village of Ossining Code Enforcement**

**John-Paul Rodrigues**  
Ossining Operations Center  
101 Route 9A, PO Box 1166  
GPS Address: 101 Briarcliff-Peekskill Parkway  
Ossining, New York 10562



## Plan a safe exit!

According to the US Fire Administration, it takes less than 30 seconds for a small flame to burn completely out of control and turn into a major fire. A home can fill with thick, black smoke and become engulfed in flames in minutes.

During an emergency, especially in the case of fire, it's important for occupants to be able to exit, and emergency personnel to enter — as quickly as possible!

- Keep hallways **clear of obstructions**
- **Do not block** or **obstruct** emergency escape windows and exit doors
- Make sure everyone knows how to unlock and open **windows and doors**
- Be sure window security bars **release from inside**
- **Develop and practice a fire escape plan**

Please call the Department of Public Works at 914-941-4660 for questions regarding: household garbage and bulk, commingled recyclables, metal pickup, organic yard waste, and newspaper/cardboard pickup.

You may also view and/or download a current version of the Sanitation Brochure on the Village website.

## Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms Save Lives!



**Two very important devices should be in every home: smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.**

Smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries — and because smoke spreads so fast, a smoke alarm will give you time to get out in the event of a fire.

**Smoke alarms are required in all sleeping rooms and on each floor level.**

Carbon monoxide is a poisonous gas that is produced by the incomplete burning of fuels like wood, charcoal, kerosene, and natural gas. Carbon monoxide alarms protect you from this gas that is colorless, odorless, and deadly.

**Carbon monoxide alarms are required on the lowest level of gas source; on each additional level of gas source; and within 15 feet all sleeping rooms.**



## What are my responsibilities as a property owner?

- Property owners are responsible for maintaining both the interior and exterior of their property, and should keep the property free of rubbish and hazards.
- Please keep sidewalks free of rubbish and obstructions at all times.
- Cars that are in disrepair should not be left on the property; the Village will allow a limit of one unregistered vehicle per parcel.
- Structures shall be kept free from insect and rodent infestation. Structures in which insects or rodents are found shall be promptly exterminated by *approved* processes that will not be injurious to human health. After pest elimination, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.
- Swimming pools shall be maintained in clean and sanitary condition and in good repair.
- Every interior and exterior flight of stairs having more than 4 risers shall have a handrail on one side of the stair, and every open portion of a stair, landing, balcony, porch, deck, ramp, or other walking surfaces that is more than 30" above the floor grade shall have guards.
- Fencing does not require a building permit. Regulations require that a fence be no higher than 36" in the front yard and no more than 78" in height in the rear and side yards. It is also required that the "good neighbor policy" shall apply; install the fence with the nicer side facing your neighbor or public right of way, with the post on the installer's side of the fence.

## Give your gas appliances air!

Gas appliances, such as water heaters, furnaces, and boilers, need plenty of air to operate safely — otherwise, they will produce excessive, deadly carbon monoxide — and because it is odorless, colorless, and toxic, you can't see, taste, or smell it. Carbon monoxide causes headaches, dizziness, disorientation, nausea and fatigue — and can be deadly.

- Schedule an **annual appliance inspection**, cleaning & tune-up by a qualified specialist
- Inspect **vents and chimneys** by a qualified expert at least once a year
- Have a technician check the **combustion air provisions** for your appliances
- **Store combustibles and flammables far away from gas appliances**



## Are you warm enough?

Landlords are to provide to tenants heat at 68 degrees 24 hours a day from September 15 to May 31, and 65 degrees in commercial work spaces.