



## Helsinki's environmental protection regulations have been updated – **Checklist of the most important regulations**

The updated environmental protection regulations of the City of Helsinki took effect on 15 July 2018. Environmental protection regulations complement the Environmental Protection Act, and their objective is to prevent environmental pollution. This bulletin contains a checklist of the most important regulations governing construction or maintenance work related to traffic routes and community development.

### **Dust suppression** 18, 19 §

- **Use irrigation with the street cleaner**  
It is important to use a sufficient amount of irrigation when removing gritting sand, in particular.
- **Leaf blowers must not be used for removing gritting sand**  
Due to the noise caused by leaf blowers, you should always use rakes when possible.
- **Dust suppression on construction sites**  
You must prevent street dust emissions on construction site access routes by using a saline solution, for example. Soil matter spreading to street areas near the construction site must be washed away to prevent dust emissions. The soil and rocks being transported to and from sites, as well as demolition waste, must be dampened if they emit dust.

### **Noise reduction**

#### **Remember to observe peace and quiet at night** 22 §

- You must not perform any noisy tasks in the vicinity of residential or accommodation premises and care facilities at night time from 22.00 to 7.00. This does not apply to construction or maintenance work related to traffic routes or community development, or temporary work that must be performed at night time due to traffic safety, flow of traffic or some other justifiable reason.



## Notifying residents and agreeing on noise reduction 17 §

- **Always notify local residents of any noisy work**

You must always notify local residents of any noisy work. It is especially important to notify residents of necessary night-time work. Notifications must be displayed at least one week prior to starting work in the stairwells of the buildings predicted to be effected. The notification must state the exact times when work is going to be carried out as well as contact details for the contractor and the commissioner of the work.

- **Agree on dust suppression and noise reduction with sensitive sites in the vicinity**

You must work together with local sensitive sites (e.g. day care centres, care institutions, religious institutions) to agree on sufficient dust suppression and noise reduction measures on the construction site. You may need to stop noisy work for the duration of children's nap time or when the children are outside, for example.

## Noise notification 21 §

- **Submit a noise notification, if necessary**

You must submit a noise notification for work such as excavation, pile driving and drilling, if the work is to be carried out outside the hours of 7.00–18.00 Monday–Friday or if the work is to be carried out for a period of more than 25 days.

- If the work mentioned above is connected to construction and maintenance work related to traffic routes or community development, and it must be performed at night time and weekends for the sake of traffic safety, flow of traffic or some other justifiable reason, a noise notification must be issued if the work will be carried out Monday–Sunday outside the hours of 7.00–22.00 or if the work is to be carried out for a period of more than 25 days.
- [A written noise notification](#) must be issued 30 days prior to starting work, at the latest.

## Construction site water 4 §

- Comply with the [City of Helsinki's instructions](#) (in Finnish) when handling and directing construction site water. Water from construction sites must not be directed to a municipal sewer network without a written agreement with the Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority (HSY).

## Fuels 11, 12 §

- Place transportable fuel tanks on leak-proof platforms unless the structure of the tank incorporates a reservoir, double bottom or double wall or the tank is located in a covered protective bund. Place the tank so that the fuel cannot seep into the sewer system or water bodies in the event of an accident. Refuelling stations must be equipped with absorbent material and equipment for the collection and storage of any leaks. Please also observe additional regulations concerning the storage of fuels in important ground water areas.

Helsinki's environmental protection regulations are available in full on the [City's website](#).

Do you have any questions regarding environmental protection regulations or do you wish to provide feedback on them? You can also use the [feedback section](#) of the City of Helsinki website.