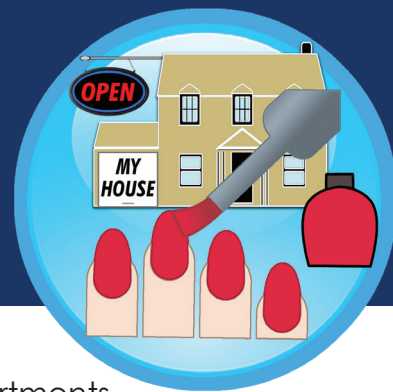


Many Home-Based Businesses Are Prohibited in Prince George's County!



What qualifies as a home-based business?

Any business that you operate at the place where you live, including apartments, condos, town houses or detached houses.

What happens if you are caught?

Operating illegal home businesses can result in fines of up to \$2,300 and other consequences.



What are examples of illegal home-based businesses?

- You may not run a restaurant, café or any type of eatery or sell food at home.
- You may not operate a hair or nail salon or a barber shop at your residence.
- You may not operate a store or use your home to house imported goods.
- You may not rent rooms, operate a boarding house or provide temporary unlicensed housing.
- You may not operate an unlicensed day care, adult care or elder care center at home.
- You may not operate any business that is not legally licensed or permitted by the County.



What problems are associated with running illegal businesses out of your home?

- Illegal home businesses pose threats such as fires and other safety hazards to your family.
- Such businesses make people who live there susceptible to being victimized by unscrupulous people.
- The businesses violate Prince George's County Code (regulations), which can lead to you being assessed fines and possibly ordered to appear at an adjudication hearing.
- Illegal home businesses interfere with licensed and permitted businesses and create public nuisances.

If I have an illegal business at home, how can I make it a legal business?

Many businesses that are prohibited at multi-family or single-family residences are allowed to operate in areas zoned for business. People who are interested in selling food may be able to operate at farmers' markets or run their own food trucks. Those who are interested in doing hair or nails can apply to work at local salons or barber shops. People interested in renting rooms may apply for a rental license. Those who wish to operate day care, adult care or elder care centers may be able to become licensed.

Operating a legal business requires a license or permit from the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE).

Make sure your business is legal and safe. *Get a license or permit today!*

For more information, visit the DPIE website at <http://dpie.mypgc.us>.



Prince George's County
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