

# Wanda wonders about noise.



## Reduce Our Impacts Environmental Messenger™

### NOISE

Generally noise is unwanted sound. The Ontario Environmental Protection Act considers noise a contaminant.

Noise becomes an environmental concern if it is at a level that may cause "an adverse effect". Noise can be a nuisance and if loud enough can cause hearing damage.

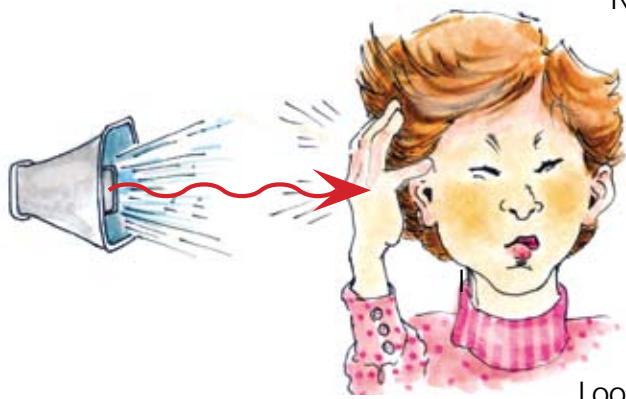
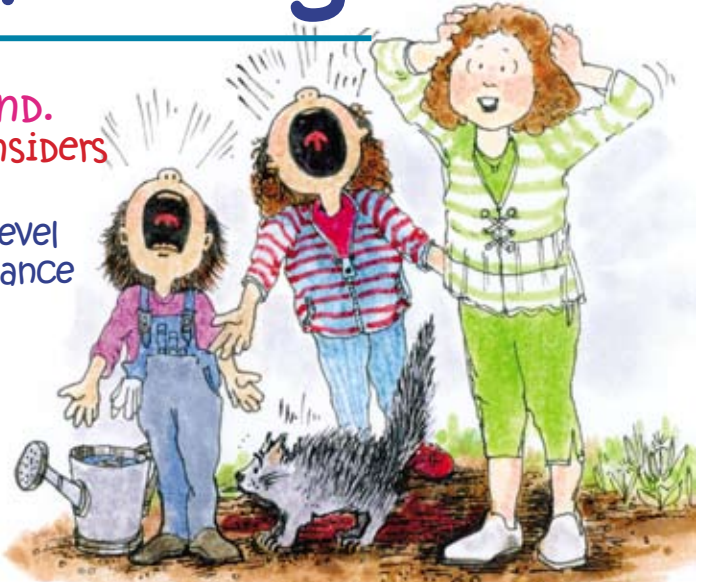
Whether or not the noise from an operation is a nuisance will depend on what type of noise it is, how far it might travel and the background noise level in which your operation exists.

An operation that is in the quiet countryside will be noticed by neighbours more than the same operation located by a busy highway or in an industrial area with lots of other noises surrounding it. A noise in the quiet of the night will be more noticeable than the same noise during the day.

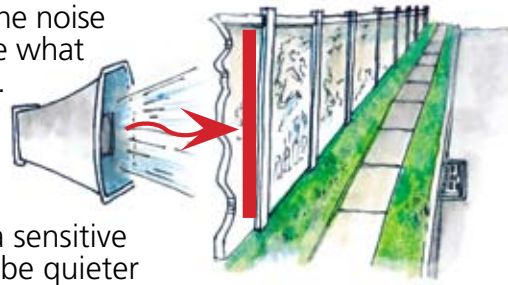
A receptor is a place on a property where sound or vibration originating elsewhere is received by a person. There are a number of receptors that are considered sensitive to noise from industry. They include homes, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes and daycares.



Beep-beep... backing beeper!



Noise is a wave that travels in a straight line. Placing something between the source of the noise and the receptor of the noise will help to reduce or eliminate what can be heard at the receptor.



If your operation is close to a sensitive receptor your operation must be quieter than one that does not have a sensitive receptor close by.

Looking for ways to reduce the noise that is made by your operations will minimize the potential to disturb your neighbours.

### Questions

- Where does your operation make noise?
- What steps have you taken to reduce noise?
- What sensitive receptors do you have close to you?
- What actions could you take to further reduce noise from your operations?



### You can reduce noise at your facility by:

- choosing equipment that operates more quietly
- muffling the sound of equipment and operations
- placing a barrier between the source of the noise and the receptor of the noise
- adjusting the hours of noisy operations

### Reduce Our Impacts



You must be the change you wish to see in the world.  
Mahatma Gandhi



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