

Safety in Public Spaces

Everyone has the right to clean and safe public spaces. Certain behaviors violate the law or city code and require action. Others do not merit police intervention but may impact your enjoyment of a public space. Tempe is continuously making efforts to approach individuals who may need help and offer resources.

Below are three options for assistance in Tempe. On the back of this card, find a list of common concerns and a recommended way to handle each. Residents can consider the urgency of the issue and use their best judgment.

Call 9-1-1 only for emergencies.

Calls to 911 are prioritized among all other calls to place the highest emergencies first. Officers will respond as soon as available. Alcohol consumption, for example, may be a violation but will be triaged based on other emergencies occurring at the time.

Tempe Police non-emergency phone line

Call 480-350-8311 to report violations or non-emergency activity that still necessitate a police response. Park security or community responder personnel may be dispatched rather than police officers.

















Tempe 311 service

The city's "One Call to City Hall" service addresses most anything residents could need and is staffed Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 480-350-4311, visit tempe.gov/tempe311 or use the Tempe 311 mobile app. Messages can be left 24/7.



tempe.gov/HumanServices



Behavior	Violation of state law and/or city code?	What to do
Bathing, washing clothes or other unsanitary activities in water fountains or splash pads	Yes	
Improper bathroom use, for cleaning or other activities	Yes	
Sitting or lying in a park ramada or on a bus bench, even for hours at a time	No	—
Accumulating large amounts of personal items at bus shelters or parks	No	
Interfering with a ramada reservation	No	 
Sleeping in a public place	No	—
Sleeping or sitting – and blocking a sidewalk or path	Yes	
Building or taking apart bikes or other equipment	No	—
Observed drug or alcohol use	Yes	
People fighting in public, verbal or physical	Yes	 
People in a park past park hours	Yes	
Damage is occurring to a public space	Yes	
Improperly disposed syringe	Yes	
Person appears in distress	—	
Free meals provided by outside groups in parks	No	—
Pets in distress	No	
Disorderly conduct	Yes	
Yelling alone	No	
Harming oneself	No	