



# Garage Sales



*Operating a garage sale, yard sale, rummage sale, flea market, auction, or any other retail from a residential area may be permitted in Bismarck as a home occupation. The purpose of this guide is to outline requirements for these events.*

*Most requirements for home occupations are in Section 14-03-06 of the City Code of Ordinances.*

## **Permitting Process for Garage Sale**

Most garage sales would qualify as a “minor home occupation,” which does not require any permits from the City. However, home-based businesses that exceed these requirements require a special use permit as a “major home occupation.” See Home Occupation guide for more information on these uses.

## **Garage Sale Requirements**

To qualify as a minor home occupation and not require any permitting, the following must be met:

### Number of Sales

Up to four garage sales are permitted on any one property per year.

### Length of Sales

A sale may only last for up to four consecutive days. For example, Thursday through Sunday. Another sale may not begin until the next Tuesday at the earliest.

### Time of Sales

Garage sales may only be held between 7am and 11pm.

### Outdoor Storage

No products or materials may be stored outside overnight. For multi-day garage sales, all items should be brought indoors overnight and set up again the next day.

### Employees

Only one additional employee who does not live in the home may work at the sale. Any number of people may participate in the garage sale on a voluntary basis.

### Traffic and Parking

The sale should not generate traffic impact significantly greater than a typical residential use. Understandably, the number of vehicles is not within the control of the operator, but garage sale operators should ensure that customers are parking legally and not blocking access for neighbors or fire hydrants and fire lanes.

### Signs

Temporary yard signs may be used on private property for garage sales. They may not be illuminated or larger than 8 square feet. Signs may not be placed on a public right-of-way.

### Hazardous Materials

The sale may not include hazardous materials beyond what would typically be stored in a residential home.

### Other Prohibited Products

Sale of adult products or medical marijuana is prohibited.

*For additional information, contact the City of Bismarck Planning Division at 355-1840 or visit the City-County Office Building 221 N. 5th Street during standard hours.*