

- (ii) The nature of the violation;
- (iii) The place where and time that the violation occurred;
- (iv) The amount of the fine assessed;
- (v) The manner, location, and time in which the fine may be paid; and
- (vi) The person's right to elect to stand trial for the violation.

(4) A preset fine, not to exceed \$500, may be imposed for each violation. The local legislative body may establish a schedule of fines for each violation and may adopt procedures for collection of these fines.

(5) A person who receives a citation may elect to stand trial for the offense by filing with the zoning official a notice of intention to stand trial. The notice shall be given at least 5 days before the date of payment as set forth in the citation. On receipt of the notice of intention to stand trial, the zoning official shall forward to the District Court having venue, a copy of the citation and the notice of intention to stand trial. On receipt of the citation, the District Court shall schedule the case for trial and notify the defendant of the trial date. All fines, penalties, or forfeitures collected by the District Court for zoning violations shall be remitted to the county in which the zoning violation occurred.

(6) If a person who receives a citation for a violation fails to pay the fine by the date of payment set forth on the citation and fails to file a notice of intention to stand trial, a formal notice of the violation shall be sent to the owner's last known address. If the citation is not satisfied within 15 days from the date of the notice, the person is liable for an additional fine not to exceed twice the original fine. If, after 35 days, the citation is not satisfied, the zoning official may request adjudication of the case through the District Court. The District Court shall schedule the case for trial and summon the defendant to appear.

(7) Adjudication of a violation under this subsection is not a criminal conviction, nor does it impose any of the civil disabilities ordinarily imposed by a criminal conviction.

(8) In a proceeding before the District Court, the violation shall be prosecuted in the same manner and to the same extent as set forth for municipal infractions in Article 23A, § 3(b)(8) through (15) of the Code. The governing body of any county may authorize the county attorney to prosecute a civil zoning violation.\*

(9) If a person is found by the District Court to have committed a civil zoning violation, he shall be liable for the costs of the proceedings in the District Court.

(D) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY PROVIDE A CIVIL PENALTY FOR A ZONING VIOLATION. IN A PROCEEDING BEFORE THE DISTRICT COURT, THE ZONING VIOLATION SHALL BE ENFORCED IN THE SAME MANNER AND TO THE SAME EXTENT AS SET FORTH FOR MUNICIPAL INFRACTIONS IN ARTICLE 23A, § 3(B) OF THE CODE.