

CHAPTER 52

GRASS AND WEEDS

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52.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to beautify and preserve the appearance of the City by requiring property owners and occupants to maintain grass lawns at a uniform height within the boundaries of their property and on abutting street right-of-way in order to prevent unsightly, offensive or nuisance conditions.

52.02 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. "Curb," "curb line" or "curbing" means the outer boundaries of a street at the edge of that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic.
2. "Cut," or "mow" means to mechanically maintain the growth of grass or weeds at a uniform height.
3. "Owner" means a person owning private property in the City and any person occupying private property in the City.
4. "Parking" means that part of a street in the City not covered by a sidewalk and lying between the lot line or property line and the curb line; or on unpaved streets, that part of the street lying between the lot line or property line and that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic.

52.03 CUTTING SPECIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE.

1. Every owner shall cut, mow and maintain all grass and weeds upon the owner's property and adjacent to the curb line or outer boundary of any street, which includes the parking area abutting the owner's property, to a uniform height as defined in Section 52.04.
2. Every owner shall cut, mow and maintain grass and weeds adjacent to the curb line, including the parking area abutting the owner's property, in such a manner so as to be in conformity with and at an even height with all other grass or weeds growing on the remainder of the owner's property.

52.04 UNIFORM HEIGHT SPECIFICATIONS. Grass or weeds shall be cut, mowed and maintained so as not to exceed the following height specifications:

1. Developed Residential Areas — not to exceed six inches (6").
2. Undeveloped Residential Areas — not to exceed eight inches (8").
3. Business and Industrial Areas — not to exceed six inches (6").

Grass and weeds which are allowed to grow in excess of the above specified limitations are deemed to be violations of this chapter.

52.05 VIOLATION. Upon a determination, by visual observation and measurement, that a violation of this chapter has occurred the City will send written notice by certified mail to the landowner informing said owner of the problem and the action that is to be taken. Notice shall be deemed given when mailed.

52.06 NOTICE. The notice will set forth that the property owner has five (5) days from the date of the notice to have the grass and weeds cut so that the height conforms with this chapter. The notice will set forth the address of the property in question and will instruct the landowner that this notice constitutes notice for the balance of the summer and that further action will be taken by the City to remedy the problem if it occurs again on the same property without additional written notice being given.

52.07 FAILURE TO CUT. If any such owner, who has been sent notice, fails to cut or mow the grass or weeds on said owner's property as set forth in the notice so that it conforms with this chapter within the time period set forth in the notice, the City Administrator will instruct the designated independent contractor to mow the grass or weeds so that the property conforms with this chapter. The cost of this action will be assessed against the property. The fee for this service will be set by resolution.

52.08 ADDITIONAL VIOLATION. Any landowner who violates this chapter will be given one notice per summer and the City will be authorized to respond to additional violations without additional written notice being given.

52.09 EXCEPTION. This chapter pertains to all residential, commercial and industrial land within the City limits, but excludes agricultural land within the City.

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