

Harrison Township Code of Ordinances

Chapter 10: Health and Safety

Part 1: WEEDS AND VEGETATION

§ 101 Vegetation Height Restricted.

[Ord. 1548, 8/19/1974, § 1]

No person, firm or corporation owning or occupying any property within the Township of Harrison shall permit any grass or weeds, or any vegetation whatsoever, not edible or planted for some useful or ornamental purpose, to grow or remain upon such premises, so as to exceed a height of six inches, or to throw off any unpleasant or noxious odor, or to conceal any filthy deposit or to create or produce pollen. Any grass, weeds or other vegetation growing upon any premises in the Township in violation of any of the provisions of this Section is hereby declared to be a nuisance, and detrimental to the health, cleanliness, safety and comfort of the inhabitants of the Township.

§ 102 Sight Obstructions.

[Ord. 1548, 8/19/1974, § 2; as amended by Ord. 1789, 11/16/1987, § 2]

1. No person, firm or corporation owning, occupying or in possession of any property abutting a Township street shall permit a sight obstruction to exist anywhere on said property.

2. For purposes of this Section, the term "sight obstruction" shall include any hedge, shrub, tree, underbrush, weeds, or vegetation which unreasonably interferes with the vision of pedestrians or motorists so as to create a danger to those using streets and sidewalks in the Township. Any such sight obstruction existing in violation of any of the provisions of this Section is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

§ 103 Owner to Maintain.

[Ord. 1548, 8/19/1974, § 7]

The owner of any premises, as to vacant premises or premises occupied by the owner, and the occupant thereof, in case of premises occupied by other than the owner thereof, shall remove, trim or cut all grass, weeds, hedges, shrubbery, or other vegetation growing or remaining upon such premises, in violation of the provisions of §§ 101 and 102 of this Part.

§ 104 Notice to Owner or Occupant to Maintain.

[Ord. 1548, 8/19/1974, § 4; as amended by Ord. 1853, 1/22/1996, § 1]

The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Harrison, or any officer or employee of the Township designated thereby for the purpose, is hereby authorized to give notice, by personal service by United States Mail, to the owner or occupant, as the case may be, of any premises whereon grass, weeds, hedges, shrubbery or other such vegetation is growing, or remaining, in violation of this Part, directing and requiring such occupant to remove, trim or cut such grass, weeds, hedge or shrubbery, or other vegetation, so as to conform to the requirements of this Part, within five days after issuance of such notice. In case any person, firm or corporation shall neglect, fail, or refuse to comply with such notice within the period of time stated therein, the Township authorities may remove, trim or cut such grass, weeds, hedges or shrubbery, or other such vegetation, and the costs thereof, together with any additional penalty authorized

by the law, may be collected by the Township from such person, firm or corporation, in the manner provided by law.

A. As an additional remedy, and not in limitation of any other remedy available to the Township, the Ordinance Enforcement Officer may issue a clean up ticket to an owner or occupant of property being maintained in violation of this Part, as follows:

(1) For owners or occupants who are, at the time of violation, already in noncompliance with a notice to maintain previously issued pursuant to this Section, a clean up ticket may be issued immediately upon observation of violation by the Ordinance Enforcement Officer.

(2) For all other owners or occupants, a clean up ticket may be issued only when the owner or occupant has failed for a period of at least five days to comply with a notice issued pursuant to this Section.

(3) The clean up ticket may be mailed or handed to the owner or occupant of the premises, or may be posted upon the premises upon which the violation occurred, by the Ordinance Enforcement Officer, who shall keep a record of the issuance of the clean up ticket. The clean up ticket will specify the amount that must be paid to the Township and the deadline for payment in order to avoid the issuance of a citation. If the owner or occupant to whom the ticket has been issued fails to pay the amount specified within the specified deadline, or indicates a desire to plea not guilty and the Ordinance Enforcement Officer desires to proceed with the case, then the Ordinance Enforcement Officer may file a citation with the proper authority. If the defendant pays the amount specified on the clean up ticket and comes into compliance with the Ordinance as directed on the clean up ticket, the case will be concluded without filing a citation or other institution of a criminal proceeding.

(4) The Ordinance Enforcement Officer is directed to prepare a standard form clean up ticket to be used in accordance with this Part.

§ 105 Penalties.

[Ord. 1548, 8/19/1974, § 5; as amended by Ord. 1782, 2/16/1987]

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part 1 shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$300 and/or to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 90 days. Every day that a violation of this Part 1 continues shall constitute a separate offense.