

ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE CUTTING OF WEEDS AND GRASS

Sec. 1. The term, "weeds and grass", as used herein, shall mean and include all weeds, grasses, plants, bushes, poison oak, poison ivy, and other vegetation, except trees, ornamental shrubbery, flowers, garden vegetables, compost piles, or other plants or vegetables customarily planted and/or cultivated by farmers or gardeners. A general growth of "weeds and grass" in excess of twelve (12) inches is hereby declared to be a menace to public health and safety.

Sec. 2. It shall be unlawful for any owner, occupant, lessee, or agent in charge of land in Town to Permit "weeds and grass" to remain uncut and exceed a general height of twelve (12) inches.

Sec. 3. Upon the failure, refusal, or neglect of an owner, occupant, lessee, or agent to cut "weeds and grass" as required hereby, the Mayor shall notify such owner, occupant, lessee, or agent of such condition and shall order such person to eliminate such "weeds and grass" within ten (10) days. Such order shall be in writing and may be served personally on, or sent by ordinary mail to, the owner of the property at the address shown on the assessment records of the County.

Sec. 4. If said order is not complied with within said ten (10) day period, the Mayor may cause the "weeds and grass" to be cut and removed, or may have such failure prosecuted as a violation of this Ordinance, or both.

Sec. 5. Whenever it shall be necessary for the Town to have the "weeds and grass" cut and removed, as above provided, the cost thereof shall constitute a debt owed to the Town, and unless paid, the same shall be added to the personal property tax bill or real estate tax bill sent to the owner, and may thereafter be collected in the same manner as taxes are collected. Or, if the Mayor and Council so determine, said charges may be collected as a debt.

Sec. 6. Any person aggrieved by an order issued pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance may file a written appeal to the Mayor and Council within ten (10) days from the date of such order, whereupon the Mayor and Council shall promptly thereafter, upon written notice, hold a hearing granting to such person the right and opportunity to show cause why he should not comply with the order. Said appeal shall not stay the effectiveness or execution of said order, unless the Mayor and Council shall specifically so provide.

Sec. 7. A violation of this Ordinance, or any order issued hereunder, shall be punishable as a misdemeanor, subject to a fine of \$1,000.00 and imprisonment of six (6) months. Imprisonment in default of fine and costs shall be regulated by provisions or Art. 38, sec. 4, of the Anno. Code of Maryland. (1)

Sec. 8. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption.

Adopted July 7, 1987

(1) This penalty provision is derived from Sec. 3., Art 23A of Anno. Code. Of Md.