

**ORDINANCE NO. 6**

**Grass and Noxious Weeds**

An Ordinance under the provision of Public Act 246 of 1945 as amended, to regulate grass and noxious weeds for the benefit of the residents of the Township of Clinton.

**TOWNSHIP OF CLINTON, LENAWEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ORDAINS:**

**Section 1. Intent.**

The Clinton Township Board hereby finds that tall grass and noxious weeds are not in the interest of residents' health and safety.

**Section 2. Definitions**

- 2.1. *District* shall mean all zoning district as defined in the Clinton Township Zoning Ordinance, however, Agriculturally zoned districts shall be exempt from this ordinance except for lawn areas around dwellings.
- 2.2. *Tall Grass and Weeds*: Vegetation, excluding trees and shrubs, growing twelve (12) inches or more from the ground. Weeds or tall grass does not include vegetables or flowers which are grown and cared for by the owner or person in possession of the premises.
- 2.3. *Lawn*: The areas in the front, side or back yards, including grass in the abutting road right-of-way of platted lots. In unplatted areas, lawn shall mean the areas around a house, garage and outbuildings that is normally mown by occupants or their agent.
- 2.4. *Owner*: Owner shall mean the owner of record or his agent.
- 2.5. *Township*: The Township of Clinton, Lenawee County, Michigan.

**Section 3. Duty of Owner**

It is the duty of each owner of real property in any District in the Township to:

- 3.1. Cut and/or remove tall grass and weeds before they go to seed, spread, regrow or otherwise become a detriment to public health or reach a height of twelve (12) inches on average.
- 3.2. Keep his/her/its property free from piles of brush or other vegetation. Accumulations of such material in excess of three months shall be prohibited

- 3.3. To cause, suffer or allow poison ivy, ragweed or other noxious plants, or plants detrimental to health, to grow on any premises in such manner that any part of such ivy, ragweed or other noxious or harmful weed shall extend upon, overhang or border any public place, or allow seed, pollen or other particles or emanations therefore to be carried through the air into any public place.

#### **Section 4. Notification**

The Township may serve notice to the property owner by first class mail or by publishing a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township in the first week of April, May, June, July and August of each year. Such notice shall include information that the Township shall cut or destroy the grass and weeds at the owner's expense which shall be recovered by a lien against the property to be collected with the winter taxes; that the grass and weeds will be cut as often as necessary during the growing season;

#### **Section 5. Enforcement**

- 5.1. In addition to the published notice specified above in Section 4, the Township Supervisor or his duly authorized representative shall give written notice to the owner of any property deemed to be in violation hereof by first class mail at the address taken from the tax rolls. Such owner shall have seven (7) days from and after such notice to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance. This notice shall suffice as notice for the entire growing season. In the event the owner is again in violation of this Ordinance, the Township shall have the right to remove said vegetation without additional notification.
- 5.2. In the event the owner does not cut, destroy or remove the grass and noxious weeds or vegetation on the property within the seven (7) days as required, the Township may enter such premises and cut, destroy or remove such grass and noxious weeds or vegetation.

#### **Section 6. Municipal Civil Infractions Violations and Penalties**

- 6.1. A violation of this Ordinance is a municipal civil infraction.
- 6.2. The fines for a civil infraction are as indicated in Township Municipal Civil Infraction Ordinance, as amended.
- 6.3. In addition to pursuing a municipal civil infraction proceeding, the Township may also initiate an appropriate action in a court of competent jurisdiction seeking injunctive, declaratory, or other equitable relief to enforce or interpret this Ordinance or any provision of the Ordinance.
- 6.4. All remedies available to the Township under this Ordinance and Michigan law shall be deemed to be cumulative and not exclusive.

6.5. Each and every day during which a violation of this Ordinance shall exist shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

**Section 7. Adoption and Publication**

This Ordinance was duly adopted by the Clinton Township Board at its regular meeting called and held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022 and was ordered given publication in the manner required by law.

**Section 8. Effective Date.**

The Ordinance herein shall be effective thirty (30) days after publication.