

Worth Township
Sanilac County, Michigan
Ordinance # 18-5-8-1: Vegetation
Amended May 8, 2018

An ordinance to control the growth of certain vegetation on platted lots, to impose an obligation on lot owners and occupants to keep certain vegetation cut, to provide for the cutting of said vegetation upon the failure of the property owner or occupant to do so, to establish fees for cutting vegetation by the township, to impose an obligation upon the lot owners and occupants to pay said fees, to establish a procedure for collecting delinquent fees and to repeal prior ordinances. The Township of Worth Ordains:

Section 1. Definition

Vegetation: As used in this ordinance vegetation shall mean grasses or weeds which typically constitute a lawn and which are typically cut or mowed. Vegetation does not include trees, shrubs, gardens, flower beds or ornamental plants which are intentionally planted and which are separate from the lawn.

Lot: As used in this ordinance the term lot shall mean a lot or property located in a platted subdivision and/or any property in Worth Township on which is located a building or buildings and any vacant land which is less than two acres in size.

Section 2.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or occupier of any land in the Township to permit noxious weeds, overgrown lawns, dead grass, or any items that could cause poisoning or irritation to human beings or tend to decrease the value of neighboring property to exist upon property so owned or occupied.

Section 3. Required Mowing

The owner of any lot shall mow the vegetation thereon at least three times per year: once per month by the 1st of each month from May thru September.

Section 4. Remedial Action by Township

In the event any owner fails to comply with the provisions of this ordinance in any of the time periods set forth in Section 2, the Township of Worth, through its representatives, employees, and /or agents, may enter upon said lot once after the expiration of each time period and mow or cut the vegetation to an average height of not less than one inch above ground level.

Section 5. Charges and Fees for Remedial Action

The Township of Worth shall charge the owner of any lot a fee for each time remedial action is taken on that owner's lot. The Worth Township board shall annually establish fees including reimbursement for the actual cost of cutting and a collection fee per lot established by the Township for mowing or cutting vegetation by resolution which may be amended from time to time and which shall be incorporated into this ordinance without formal amendment to the ordinance.

Section 6. Collection of Fees, Service Charges and Collection costs for remedial action

The Worth Township Clerk shall send a statement for any remedial action to the owner of the lot at the address listed on the property tax rolls. Any balance not paid by the 1st Wednesday of November of that year shall be considered delinquent. The Clerk shall take all necessary actions to collect delinquent balances including, but not limited to, referring the account to the Treasurer to place on the tax rolls of that year. The lot owner shall be responsible for all collections costs incurred by the Township including actual fees.

Section 7: Severability

If any action or provision of this ordinance is declared unenforceable or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, that declaration shall not affect the validity of any other section of the ordinance.

Section 8: Repealor

Ordinances 84-3 and 2005-, 2009-4A, 2009-4B and 201-2 are repealed upon the effective date of this ordinance.

Section 9: Effective Date:

This ordinance shall take effect upon publication (June 1, 2018).

Motion by Woodruff, seconded by Wylie

Roll Call: Yes: Badgerow, Wylie, Essenmacher, Woodruff, and Stanyer, No: None, Absent: None,

Carried: 5-0 Ordinance Declared Adopted