

Codified Ordinances of Pickerington, Ohio

680.01 NOXIOUS WEEDS DEFINED; DUTY TO CUT.

(a) As used in this chapter, "noxious weeds" means, but is not limited to, burrs, vines, Russian thistle, Canadian thistle, wild lettuce, wild mustard, wild parsnip, wild parsley, ragweed, milkweed, iron weed, jimson cocklebur, burdock, and all categories of grasses, other than cultivated crops.

(b) (1) On any improved/developed residential, commercial, or industrial lot or parcel of land, noxious weeds shall not exceed six inches in height. For purposes of this division (b)(1), a section of a residential subdivision is considered improved once construction of any house commences in such section.

(2) On any unimproved/undeveloped residential, commercial, or industrial lot or parcel of land, noxious weeds shall not exceed 18 inches in height; provided further, on parcels of land exceeding ten acres, it shall be required to keep any noxious weeds cut to 12 inches in height for a distance of 80 feet from any roadway and any improved residential parcel of land.

(Ord. 98-90. Passed 11-17-98; Ord. 2002-135. Passed 12-17-02.)

680.02 PROHIBITION; NOTICE; SERVICE; EXCEPTION.

(a) No person, whether as owner, lessee, agent, tenant or any other person having charge or care of land within the City shall permit grass or noxious weeds to exceed the limits set forth in Section 680.01 for noxious weeds. Lots or parcels of land include areas within rights-of-ways and between curbs and sidewalks.

(b) Whenever the grass or noxious weeds of any property exceeds the limits set forth in Section 680.01, the City Code Enforcement Officer, or his designees, shall cause written notice of the violation of City Code to be served upon the owner, lessee, tenant or other person or entity having charge or care of the land in the City, notifying him that the noxious weeds and grass are growing in violation of Section 680.01 and 680.02 and ordering that such weeds and grass be removed within five (5) days of service of the notice of violation.

(c) Written notice may be served by certified mail; ordinary mail if the certified mail is refused or unclaimed; personal service upon the owner, lessee, agent, tenant or person or entity having charge, care of, or occupation of the premises; by posting at the subject property; or publishing the notice once in a local newspaper of general circulation.

(d) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to land zoned Agricultural (AGR).
(Ord. 98-90. Passed 11-17-98; Ord. 2002-135. Passed 12-17-02; Ord. 2007-62. Passed 10-16-07.)

680.03 FAILURE TO CUT WEEDS.

Upon failure of any owner, occupant, or person having charge of the management of any lots and lands to comply with the notice required by Section 680.02 within the period of time stipulated, the City Manager shall cause such grass and weeds to be cut and destroyed by the direct employment of labor. Labor shall include removal of rocks, debris, garbage, wood or other materials which by their presence would damage or destroy mowing equipment or cause the cutting of weeds to be unachievable. Upon the performance of such labor, the City Manager shall invoice the person in charge of the lots and lands for the cost of cutting the grass and weeds, including the costs of service, any debris removal, and time of City staff, with costs adjusted to current wages. Should the person fail to remit payment within 15 days, the Finance Director shall make a return of such charges, in writing, to the Auditor of Fairfield County, which return shall be entered upon the tax duplicate of the County.

(Ord. 81-35. Passed 8-4-81; Ord. 2002-135. Passed 12-17-02.)