



**City of Kenosha  
Property Maintenance  
Guidelines**

## **Long Grass and Noxious Weeds**

### **What is considered long grass?**

Grass exceeding eight inches (8") in height.

### **What are considered noxious weeds?**

Common weeds, such as Chicory, Thistle, and Mullein, exceeding eight inches (8") in height.

### **How are violations of long grass and noxious weeds handled by the City?**

Violations are reported by citizens to the Department of Community Development and Inspections, 625 52nd Street, Room 100. Phone: 262.653.4263. When a complaint has been made, the City will inspect the property to determine if the grass or weeds exceed height limits. The City will give the owner a written order requiring that they cut the grass or weeds within five (5) days of the order. If the owner fails to comply with the order, the City will have the grass or weeds cut by a private contractor and will recover the cost of the cutting through special assessments levied against the property. The City will also charge a \$100 administrative fee for processing and administering the cutting and special assessment.

### **Am I responsible for cutting the grass and weeds in the parkway by my property?**

Yes. The parkway is the area from the public sidewalk to the street.

### **Am I responsible for cutting the grass and weeds in the alley next to my property?**

Yes. Property owners are responsible for cutting grass and weeds from the center of the alley to their property line.

### **Am I responsible for cutting the grass and weeds on a vacant lot which I own?**

Yes. Grass and weeds in vacant lots in developed areas must be cut to comply with City height regulations. Grass and weeds in vacant lots in undeveloped areas must be cut back fifteen feet (15') from the public right-of-way and cut back fifteen feet (15') from adjacent developed lots.

### **Am I allowed to grow ornamental grasses in the City?**

Yes. Property owners who wish to grow ornamental grasses must submit an application for variance to the Department of Community Development and Inspections, 625 52nd Street, Room 100. The application requires the identification of species, maximum heights and locations of the grasses.

**For more information:  
Department of Community Development  
and Inspections  
625 52nd Street • Room 100 • 262.653.4263**