

This brochure is designed to inform you whether or not your property is in compliance with the Indianapolis/Marion County Revised Code.

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1. Revised Code.** You can view the entire Indianapolis/Marion County Revised Code online at www.municode.com.
- 2. High Weeds & Grass.** Vegetation over 12 inches in height is considered high weeds and grass and is a violation of Ch. 575 of the Revised Code.
- 3. Abatement.** A property owner has five (5) days from the date of a Notice of Violation to cut the property in violation.
- 4. Notice of Violation.** The City is only required to issue one notice of violation per calendar year for high weeds and grass.
- 5. Violations.** If a property is mowed by the City, the property owner will be billed \$353 and will continue to be billed this amount if the City has to continue to mow the property.

To report high weeds & grass or other neighborhood concern, contact:

MAYOR'S ACTION CENTER

**327-4MAC (4622)
www.indy.gov/mac**

Revised: March 2011

Department of Code Enforcement

Putting public safety and quality of life issues first through efficiently and effectively administering:

- **LICENSES**
- **PERMITS**
- **INSPECTIONS**

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For a complete list of services and resources, visit www.indy.gov/dce or

contact us via:

1200 Madison Ave., Suite 100

Indianapolis, IN 46225

Phone: (317) 327-8700

LOBBY HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wednesday

Noon - 5 p.m.

Friday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Department of Code Enforcement
Indianapolis
Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor

HIGH WEEDS & GRASS



Weeds and grass over 12" are considered a public nuisance.

HIGH WEEDS & GRASS (HWG)

What is considered High Weeds & Grass?

Vegetation over 12 inches in height is considered high weeds and grass and is a public nuisance violation according to Ch. 575 of the Revised Code.

Why are High Weeds & Grass problematic?

High Weeds and Grass are an environmental public nuisance and has a negative effect on public health and safety. Besides being unattractive, high weeds and grass can harbor pests and vermin and can also conceal illegal activities.

What types of High Weeds & Grass issues does the Department of Code Enforcement abate?

DCE abates (cuts) High Weeds and Grass violations on neglected private property. The Department of Public Works maintains responsibility for High Weeds and Grass in the public right-of-way.

What happens if a property owner fails to take responsibility for cutting a property?

After the initial mow by the City, the property is scheduled to be re-mowed approximately every 30 days until the property owner takes responsibility for the property.

Where can I find more information about the High Weeds and Grass program?

Information related to the process, frequently asked questions, disputes and administrative hearings, invoicing and case research is available online at www.indy.gov/weeds.

WHAT IS THE ABATEMENT PROCESS?

Step 1 – Citizen reports High Weeds & Grass to the Mayor's Action Center.

Step 2 – An inspector receives the complaint and will inspect the property.

Step 3 – If the inspector determines that High Weeds and Grass exists on a property, a Notice of Violation will be issued.

Step 4 – From the date the Notice of Violation is mailed, the property owner has five (5) days to abate their property.

Step 5 – After five (5) days, a mowing vendor will conduct a site inspection. If the property owner has abated (cut) the property, the vendor documents that the property owner has come into compliance and notifies DCE.

If the property owner has not abated (cut) the property, the vendor documents that the property is still in violation. The vendor will then immediately mow the property and document with before and after photos showing that the vendor abated the property.

Step 6 – On a daily basis, the vendor reports to DCE which properties have been mowed and which properties came into voluntary compliance.

Step 7 – If a mowing vendor cuts the grass, the property owner will receive an invoice for \$353 from the City of Indianapolis. That cost includes: administrative fees to run the high weeds and grass program (data entry, cost of paper, staffing, technology, etc.) and the vendor cost (labor, transportation, fuel, equipment, etc.)

Step 8 – If the property owner does not pay the invoice, it will be attached to the owner's property tax bill.

WHAT CAN I DO?

How do I report High Weeds & Grass?

Call the Mayor's Action Center at (317) 327-4MAC (4622) or www.indy.gov/mac. Be prepared to give an exact street address and any details about the property, if possible, such as the color of the house.

How do I determine if a property has already been reported?

To check to see if a property has already been reported as a high weeds and grass violation, visit the Department of Code Enforcement website at www.indy.gov/weeds. That page includes a link to search for citations on a property.

Did you know...

As a property owner, it is your responsibility to maintain your entire property. This includes:

- The area between the sidewalk and the curb
- The area of your property that abuts an alley
- Any drainage ditch that may adjoin your property
- Your fence line
- The sidewalk in front of your property
- All shrubs, brush and trees on your property. Be sure that they do not grow in such a way that they obstruct the sidewalk!