

Proposed Changes to Rank Vegetation

OPTION 1

This option incorporates the information presented at the last meeting. The definition exempts those areas designed to be storm water management areas and other areas being naturalized. I added an exemption for agricultural uses in the section 1351.18

(j) "Rank vegetation" means any growth of weeds or grass ~~on a developed parcel, except rain gardens, storm water management areas, wildflower meadows and other naturalized areas, that is~~ are designed to be a lawn or landscaped area on a developed parcel, to a height greater than 12 inches.

1351.18 RANK VEGETATION AND LANDSCAPE FEATURES.

(a) Lawns and landscaping on private property and as well as within a public right of way shall be kept from becoming overgrown and unsightly and shall be maintained so as not to constitute a blighting or deteriorating effect on the surrounding neighborhood.

(b) Rank vegetation and landscaping features may not obstruct the vision of motorists and pedestrian traffic on or near public roads.

(c) Rank vegetation shall not be permitted on any residentially, commercially or industrially developed lot or parcel;

(d) Agricultural Use, Exempted. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, any land where grasses are grown in conjunction with the agricultural purposes of farming, dairying and/or pasturage shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

OPTION 2

This option incorporates the definition of Option 1 and the agricultural exemption but limits the area to be addressed as Rank Vegetation to within 25 feet of a structure whether it is occupied or not. This concept was also discussed at the last meeting.

(j) "Rank vegetation" means any growth of weeds or grass ~~on a developed parcel, except rain gardens, storm water management areas, wildflower meadows and other natural areas~~ -that is designed to be a lawn or landscaped area on a developed parcel, to a height greater than 12 inches.

1351.18 RANK VEGETATION AND LANDSCAPE FEATURES.

(a) On private property Lawns and landscaping ~~on private property that is within twenty-five (25) feet on which a residential dwelling, commercial or industrial building exists, whether or not such building is occupied,~~ and ~~as well as lands~~ within a public right of way shall be kept from becoming overgrown and unsightly and shall be maintained so as not to constitute a blighting or deteriorating effect on the surrounding neighborhood.

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(b) Rank vegetation and landscaping features may not obstruct the vision of motorists and pedestrian traffic on or near public roads.

(c) Rank vegetation shall not be permitted on any residentially, commercially or industrially developed lot or parcel;

(d) Agricultural Use, Exempted. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, any land where grasses are grown in conjunction with the agricultural purposes of farming, dairying and/or pasturage shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

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OPTION 3

This option takes a different approach. It is based on the approach taken by Richfield Village that defines noxious vegetation and uncontrolled growth. The rank vegetation definition is eliminated and replaced with Noxious Weed and Uncontrolled Growth. These would be added to section 1351.06 and several of the definitions would be required to be renumbered. This approach will mirror what the State of Ohio has designated as noxious weeds in the Ohio Administrative Code. A copy is attached for your information.

Section 1351.18 is re-titled address uncontrolled growth and noxious weeds. The control aspects are similar to the other options but it now included a more definitive definition of what is a weed or noxious weed. The agricultural exemption is included.

~~—(j) "Rank vegetation" means any growth of weeds or grass on a developed parcel that is designed to be a lawn or landscaped area to a height greater than 12 inches.~~

(f) "Noxious weed" means any plant which is currently listed as a prohibited and restricted noxious weed by the Director of Agriculture in the Ohio Administrative Code.

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(o) "Uncontrolled growth" means all grasses and/or weeds, except rain gardens, storm water management areas, wildflower meadows and other naturalized areas, growing at a height of 12 inches or higher.

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~~1351.18 RANK VEGETATION- UNCONTROLLED GROWTH AND LANDSCAPE FEATURES- NOXIOUS WEEDS~~

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(a) ~~Uncontrolled growth and/or noxious weeds~~ ~~Lawns and landscaping~~ on private property and as well as within a public right of way shall be ~~kept from becoming overgrown and unsightly-~~ a public nuisance and shall be maintained so as not to constitute a blighting or deteriorating effect on the surrounding neighborhood.

(b) ~~Rank vegetation and landscaping features-~~ Uncontrolled growth may not obstruct the vision of motorists and pedestrian traffic on or near public roads.

(c) ~~Rank vegetation-~~ Uncontrolled growth and/or noxious weeds shall not be permitted on any residentially, commercially or industrially developed lot or parcel;

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(d) Agricultural Use, Exempted. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, any land where grasses are grown in conjunction with the agricultural purposes of farming, dairying and/or pasturage shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.



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Ohio Administrative Code
Rule 901:5-37-01 Prohibited noxious weeds.
Effective: September 14, 2018

The following plants are hereby designated "prohibited noxious weeds":

- (A) Shatter cane (*Sorghum bicolor*).
- (B) Russian thistle (*Salsola Kali* var. *temifolia*).
- (C) Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*).
- (D) Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*).
- (E) Grapevines (*Vitis* spp.), when growing in groups of one hundred or more and not pruned, sprayed, cultivated, or otherwise maintained for two consecutive years.
- (F) Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*).
- (G) Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*).
- (H) Cressleaf groundsel (*Senecio glabellus*).
- (I) Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*).
- (J) Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).
- (K) Mile-A-Minute Weed (*Polygonum perfoliatum*).
- (L) Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).
- (M) Apple of Peru (*Nicandra physalodes*).



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- (N) Maretail (*Conyza canadensis*)
- (O) Kochia (*Bassia scoparia*).
- (P) Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*).
- (Q) Kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*).
- (R) Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*).
- (S) Yellow Groove Bamboo (*Phyllostachys aureasculata*), when the plant has spread from its original premise of planting and is not being maintained.
- (T) Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*).
- (U) Heart-podded hoary cress (*Lepidium draba* sub. *draba*).
- (V) Hairy whitetop or ballcress (*Lepidium appelianum*).
- (W) Perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*).
- (X) Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*).
- (Y) Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*).
- (Z) Hedge bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*).
- (AA) Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*).
- (BB) Columbus grass (*Sorghum x alnum*).
- (CC) Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*).

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(DD) Forage Kochia (*Bassia prostrata*).

(EE) Water Hemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*).