

## CHAPTER 52

# MOWING OF PROPERTIES

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**52.01 PURPOSE.** The purpose of this chapter is to beautify and preserve the appearance of the City by requiring property owners and occupants to maintain lawns at a uniform height within the boundaries of their property and on abutting street right-of-way in order to prevent unsightly, offensive or nuisance conditions.

**52.02 EXEMPTIONS.** The Council reserves the right to declare any particular area exempt from this chapter if it involves conservation or other natural grass, flower, or wildlife area, such exemption to be approved by the Council by motion and filed in writing with the Clerk.

**52.03 DEFINITIONS.** For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. “Curb,” “curb line,” or “curbing” means the outer boundaries of a street at the edge of that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic.
2. “Cut” or “mow” means to mechanically maintain the growth of grass, weeds, or brush at a uniform height.
3. “Owner” means a person owning a private property in the City and any person occupying private property in the City.
4. “Parking” means that part of a street in the City not covered by a sidewalk and lying between the lot line or property line and the curb line: or on unpaved streets, that part of the street lying between the lot line or property line and that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic.

**52.04 CUTTING SPECIFICATION AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE.**

1. Every owner shall cut, mow, and maintain all grass, weeds, and brush upon the owner’s property and adjacent to the curb line or outer boundary of any street, which includes the parking area abutting the owner’s property, to a uniform height as defined in Section 52.05.
2. Every owner shall cut, mow, and maintain all grass, weeds, and brush adjacent to the curb line, including the parking area abutting the owner’s property, in such a manner so as to be in conformity with and at an even height with all other grasses, weeds, or brush growing on the remainder of the owner’s property.

**52.05 UNIFORM HEIGHT SPECIFICATIONS.** Any property within the City, whether vacated or non-vacated, is required to be mowed any time the grass, weeds, and brush reaches the height where it can become a habitat for vermin, or a health, safety, or fire hazard. Ornamental grasses are excluded. Unless a variance is allowed by resolution of the Council, grass, weeds, brush, or other plants, except trees, shall be cut, mowed and maintained to conform to the following height specifications:

1. Developed Residential Areas: not to exceed eight inches.
2. Undeveloped Residential Areas: not to exceed eight inches.
3. Business and Industrial Areas: not to exceed eight inches.
4. Agricultural Areas: not to exceed 12 inches.

**52.06 PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.** Annual spring publication of this chapter in an official newspaper shall serve as notice to property owners. The City will be authorized to respond to violations without additional written notice being given. The code enforcement department will only provide notification of the same violation once per calendar year.

**52.07 FAILURE TO COMPLY.** If the property owner fails to comply with this chapter, the Council or its appointee will order the property to be mowed. The City will then apply a charge of \$100.00. This fee, if not paid within 30 days, will be assessed by the City for such costs and will be collected in the same manner as general property taxes.

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