

## CHAPTER 4

### Lawn Maintenance

#### § 10-4-1 Regulation of Length of Lawn

##### **SEC. 10-4-1 REGULATION OF LENGTH OF LAWN.**

(a) PURPOSE. This section is adopted due to the unique nature of the problems associated with lawns being allowed to grow to excessive length in the Village of Plainfield.

(b) PUBLIC NUISANCE DECLARED. The Village Board finds that lawns on residential lots or parcels of land which exceed eight (8) inches in length adversely affect the public health and safety of the public in that they tend to emit pollen and other discomforting bits of plants, constitute a fire hazard and a safety hazard in that debris can be hidden in the grass, interferes with the public convenience and adversely affects property values of other land within the Village. For that reason, any lawn on a residential lot or parcel of land which exceeds eight (8) inches in length is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

(c) NUISANCES PROHIBITED. No person, firm or corporation shall permit any public nuisance as defined in subsection (b) above to remain on any premises owned or controlled by him within the Village of Plainfield.

(d) INSPECTION. The Weed Commissioner or his designee shall inspect or cause to be inspected all premises and places within the Village to determine whether any public nuisance as defined in subsection (b) above exists.

(e) ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE. If the inspecting officer shall determine with reasonable certainty that any public nuisance as defined in Subsection (b) above exists, he shall immediately report such existence to the town board and the Village Board shall, if it determines that such nuisance exists, cause notice to be served that the Village Board proposes to have the lawn cut so as to conform with this Section and that a hearing will be held before the Village Board for the purpose of ordering such mowing. The notice shall be served at least one (1) week prior to the date of the hearing and shall be served on the owner of the lot or parcel of land, or, if he is not known and there is a tenant occupying the property, then to the tenant, of the time and place at which the hearing will be held. At the hearing, the owner may appear in person or by his attorney and may present witnesses in his behalf. After the hearing the Village Board shall make

its determination in writing specifying its findings of fact and conclusions. If it determines that a public nuisance does exist, it shall order the inspecting officer to serve or cause to be served upon the owner of the property, if he can be found, or upon the occupant thereof a written notice to abate the nuisance within five (5) days of the service of the notice. If the owner does not abate the nuisance within the time limit, the inspecting officer shall cause the same to be abated.

(f) ASSESSMENT OF COSTS OF ABATEMENT. The entire cost of abating any public nuisance as defined in Subsection (b) above shall be chargeable to and assessed against the parcel or lot affected.