

Town of Menasha Weed Policy

Adopted November 24, 2008

Purpose:

To prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plant species in and around our community.

The Town Clerk will annually, on or before May 15, publish as required by state law, a notice that every person is required by law to destroy all noxious weeds on lands in the Town which he owns, occupies or controls. Wis. Statutes Section 66.96(2) states that the Parks and Recreation Department, which has been assigned the responsibility of Weed Commission on behalf of the Town, will require all noxious weeds to be destroyed prior to the time in which such plants would mature to the bloom or flower state. Noxious weeds shall include but not be limited to the following:

Cirsium Arvense (Canada Thistle)	Xanthium strumarium (Cocklebur)
Ambrosia trifida (Great Ragweed)	Amaranthus retroflexus (Pigweed)
Euphorbia esula (Leafy Spurge)	Rumex Crispus (Curled Dock)
Tragopogon dubius (Goat's Beard)	Cannabis sativa (Hemp)
Rhus radicans (Poison Ivy)	Plantago lanceolata (English Plantain)
Cirsium vulgaries (Bull Thistle)	Urtica dioica (Stinging Nettle)
Pastinaca sativa (Wild Parsnip)	Begger Ticks
Arctium minus (Burdock)	Golden Rod
Non-native Lythrum Salicaria / Lythrum Virgatum (Purple Loosestrife)	
Ambrosia artemisiifolia (Common Ragweed)	
Chenopodium album (Common Lambsquarter)	
Convolvulus arvensis (Creeping Jenny) (Field Bind Weed)	
Alliaria petiolata (Garlic Mustard Weed)	
Dandelions and Milkweed over eight inches in height	

"Destroy" means the complete killing of weeds or the killing of weed plants above the surface of the ground by the use of chemicals, cutting, tillage, cropping system, pasturing livestock, or any or all of these in effective combination, at a time and in a manner as will effectually prevent the weed plants from maturing to the bloom or flower stage.

If the owner or occupant neglects to destroy any weeds as required by this notice, and a call or complaint is received in the Town Parks and Recreation Department regarding specific property, the weed commissioner will be dispatched to view said property. The weed commissioner will check on Thursday of each week those properties that have complaints filed against them by noon on Wednesday. If weeds are indeed present, the town weed commissioner will give seven (7) days' written notice via certified mail to the owner or occupant of any lands upon which the weeds are growing to destroy said weeds. If after seven (7) days, the presence of weeds has been re-verified, the Town will hire a private contractor to destroy all such weeds growing on said land and the cost of services plus an administrative fee will be billed to the

property owner. If the property owner does not submit payment in a timely fashion, the expenses will be charged against the property and be collected as a special tax.

A reminder "weed compliance notice" will be sent out in April of each year to property owners who received a certified letter the previous year asking them to remove weeds from their property. This letter will include policy changes and a list of noxious weeds.

The administrative fee charged when a private contractor is hired will be a flat rate consisting of personnel, transportation and office expenses equaling \$99.473 beginning in 2009. This amount will increase 3% each following year effective the first business day in January. **This amount is in addition to actual contractual mowing costs.**

A "repeat offenders fee" of \$50 will apply for those property owners that receive multiple complaints within a single growing season (i.e. town receives complaint, observes non-compliance, applies policy to gain compliance; within the same growing season, a second or more complaint(s) is/are received and processed - at such point the "repeat offenders fee" is applied).