



Legislation Text

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File #: 240298, Version: 0

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240298  
ORIGINAL  
220110

ALD. WESTMORELAND

An ordinance relating to the enforcement of the cutting of tall grass and weeds.

80-17-0 am

80-17-2 rc

This ordinance clarifies that the requirement to cut tall grass and weeds shall be enforced year-round.

Whereas, Section 80-17-2 of the Code of Ordinances stipulates that no turf grass or weeds of any kind shall be permitted to grow or stand more than 7 inches on any property in the city; and

Whereas, Properties with tall grass and weeds quickly become neighborhood eyesores that reduce the quality of life in the surrounding area; and

Whereas, The Department of Public Works, Operations Division-Forestry Services does not generally begin enforcing s. 80-17-2 of the Code until late spring, when some lawns have already been overgrown for weeks, which creates eyesores for neighboring homes and businesses; and

Whereas, Because grass does not grow in winter, residents would generally not need to be concerned about enforcement of s.80-17-2 during the cold-weather months of November through March; and

Whereas, In March 2023, the Common Council passed File Number 220110, which allows residents to optionally apply for "no mow May" permits, permitting them to forgo cutting their grass during the month of May; and

Whereas, Enforcement of the tall grass and weeds ordinance year-round would have no effect on the "no mow May" program, which would remain available to those residents who wish to avoid mowing their lawns in the month of May; now, therefore

The Mayor and Common Council of the City of Milwaukee do ordain as follows:

Part 1. Section 80-17-0 of the code is amended to read:

**80-17. ~~[[Hay Fever Weeds, etc.]]~~ >>Turf Grass and Weeds.<<**

Part 2. Section 80-17-2 of the code is repealed and recreated to read:

**2. TO BE CUT.** a. No turf grass or weeds of any kind shall be permitted to grow or stand more than 7 inches on any property in the city.

b. The city shall enforce par. a year-round.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

*K. Broadnax*

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Legislative Reference Bureau

Date: June 11, 2024

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IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THE ORDINANCE  
IS LEGAL AND ENFORCEABLE

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Office of the City Attorney

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Alex Highley  
LRB179943-1  
5/30/2024