

TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE - CODE OF ORDINANCES

CHAPTER 11 - PUBLIC NUISANCES

11.05 CONTROL OF NOXIOUS AND NUISANCE WEEDS

(1) DEFINITIONS

(a) "Noxious weeds" means the following: Canada thistle, leafy spurge, field bindweed (creeping Jenny), cannabis (marijuana/hemp), and any other such weeds as may be specified in § 66.0407(1)(b), Stats.

(b) "Nuisance weeds" means any non-native member of the genus Lythrum (purple loosestrife) or hybrids thereof, and multiflora rose; along with any other weeds allowed to grow to such a height and density, that would interfere with the sight distance at a highway intersection, or would otherwise create a public nuisance, as defined in s. TCG § 11.06(1).

(c) "Weed Commissioner" means the person designated by the Town Chair, under § 66.0517 Wis. Stats.; having the duties and powers specified in (2)(c) and (2)(d), and § 66.0517 Wis. Stats.

(2) WEED COMMISSIONER

(a) The Weed Commissioner shall be appointed annually by the Town Chair on or before May 15; and shall have the duties and powers specified in § 66.0517 Wis. Stats., in addition to those specified in (c) and (d) below.

(b) At the same time the Weed Commissioner is appointed; a class 2 notice shall be published specifying that every person that owns, occupies, or controls lands within the town limits is required by law to destroy all noxious weeds, as described in (1)(a); and that all nuisance weeds shall be controlled, as specified by the Weed Commissioner.

(c) The Weed Commissioner shall review any claim that a growth of nuisance weeds has become a public nuisance, and shall take action to ensure that the nuisance is abated. The control of nuisance weeds, shall follow the procedure for the destruction of noxious weeds, described in § 66.0517 Wis. Stats.

(d) The Weed Commissioner may request the Highway Superintendent to use Town-owned mowing equipment to control the growth of nuisance weeds, if such use is determined to be the most economical method available; or when the landowner of the parcel cannot be contacted as described in (b).

(3) PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

In addition to, and separate from, any penalty specified in any applicable state statute; violations of this ordinance shall be punishable as Class D forfeitures, under s. TCG § 25.04.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE

This section shall take effect upon passage and publication.