

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 180

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO GRASS, WEEDS AND OTHER VEGETATION, REQUIRING THE REMOVAL, TRIMMING OR CUTTING THEREOF, BY THE OWNER OR OCCUPANT OF THE PREMISES WHERE THE SAME IS GROWING, UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, OR BY THE TOWNSHIP AT THE EXPENSE OF SUCH OWNER OR OCCUPANT IN DEFAULT, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION, AND AN ORDINANCE FURTHER PROHIBITING THE GROWTH OF NOXIOUS WEEDS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of Washington Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

Section 1: Ordinance No. 153 enacted on April 18, 1969 is hereby amended in its entirety.

Section 2: Unlawful Growths; Declaration As Nuisance;
Exemption.

A. No person, firm or corporation, or any agent, servant, representative or employee of any such person, firm or corporation owning or occupying any property within the Township of Washington shall permit:

(1) Any grass, weeds or any other vegetation whatsoever, not edible or planted for some useful or ornamental purpose, to grow or remain upon such premises as to:

- (a) Exceed a height of twelve (12") inches.
- (b) Throw off any unpleasant or noxious odor.
- (c) Conceal any filthy deposit.
- (d) Create or produce pollen.

(2) Poison ivy, ragweed or other poisonous plants, or plants detrimental to health, to grow or remain upon such premises in such manner that they shall extend or border upon, or overhang any street, sidewalk, or other public place.

(3) The following plants have been named noxious weeds by the Noxious Weed Control Committee of Pennsylvania, pursuant to the Noxious Weed Control Act of 1992, and these weeds can no longer be planted, sold, or propagated, under any circumstances, within the Township of Washington:

Marijuana
Chicory
Canadian Thistle
Multiflora Rose
Johnson Grass
Musk Thistle
Bull Thistle
Jimsonweed
Mile-A-Minute Weed
Kudzu-Vine
Shattercane

B. Any grass, weeds or other vegetation growing upon any premises in the Township in violation of any of the provisions of Subsection A above is hereby declared to be a nuisance and detrimental to the health, safety, cleanliness and comfort of the inhabitants of the Township.

C. Excluded from application of this provision are wooded areas and open fields or acreage to within One Hundred (100') Feet of any building or structure.

Section 3: Cutting And Removal Required By Owner Or Occupant.

A. The owner of any premises, as to vacant premises or premises occupied by the owner, or the occupant thereof, in the

case of premises occupied by other than the owner thereof, shall trim, cut or remove all grass, weeds or other vegetation growing or remaining upon such premises as often as may be necessary to bring such premises into compliance with the provisions of Section 2; provided, however, that cutting, trimming, or removing such weeds, grass or other vegetation at least twice a month in the months of May, June, July, August, and September, and the removal of the weeds, grass and other vegetation so cut shall be deemed evidence that no violation of this Section shall have been created.

Section 4: Duties Of Owner Or Occupant.

The Owner of any vacant premises or premises occupied by the owner, or the occupant thereof, in the case of premises occupied by other than the owner thereof, shall remove, trim or cut all grass, weeds or other vegetation growing or remaining upon such premises in violation of any of the provisions of Section 2 of this Ordinance.

Section 5: Notice To Comply; Noncompliance.

The Supervisors of Washington Township, or any officer of the Township designated thereby for the purpose, is hereby authorized to give notice, by personal service or by United States Mail, to the owner or occupant, as the case may be, of any premises whereof grass, weeds or other vegetation is growing or remaining in violation of any of the provisions of this Chapter, directing and requiring such owner or occupant to remove, trim or cut such grass, weeds or other vegetation so as to conform to the requirements of this Ordinance within five (5) days after the issuance of such

notice. In case any person shall neglect, fail or refuse to comply with such notice within the period of time stated herein, the Township may cause such grass, weeds, or other vegetation to be removed, trimmed or cut, and the cost thereof, with an additional charge of ten (10%) percent, shall be collected by the Township from such person in default, in the manner provided by law.

Section 6: Violations and Penalties.

Any person who shall violate any provisions of this Chapter shall, upon conviction thereof for each violation, be subject to a fine of up to Five Hundred and 00/100 (\$500.00) Dollars plus costs of prosecution. In default of payment of said fines and costs, such person shall be sentenced to the Northampton County Prison for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days. Each day of violation shall be deemed a separate offense.

Section 7: Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon enactment.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED into an Ordinance this 14th day of July, 1993.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By: Ignatz Klausz Jr.
Ignatz Klausz Jr., Chairman

By: Clayton D. Rutt
Clayton D. Rutt

By: David Hess
David Hess

ATTEST:

By: Barbara J. Hallet
Barbara J. Hallet, Secretary