

TOWN ORDINANCE NUMBER 6.08
Town of Blooming Grove, Dane County, Wisconsin
**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF
LAWNS AND GRASSES**

The Town Board of the Town of Blooming Grove, Dane County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain as follows:

In Chapter 6 of the Town of Blooming Grove Code of Ordinances, Town Ordinance 6.08 is hereby created and reads as follows:

6.08 Regulation of Lawns and Grasses.

- (1) **Public Nuisance Declared.** The Town Board finds that lawns, grasses, and weeds on platted, non-agricultural, non-conservancy land that exceed eight (8) inches in length can emit pollen and other plant parts that can cause discomfort, can constitute a fire hazard, can constitute a safety hazard when debris and/or harmful animals are hidden in grasses or weeds, can interfere with public convenience, can adversely affect the value of other land, and can adversely affect the health and safety of the public. For these reasons, any lawns, grasses, or weeds on platted, non-agricultural, non-conservancy land that exceeds 8 inches in length is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, regardless of whether the land is used for commercial or residential purposes. Note that the Town Board may opt to suspend this Ordinance for some or all of the month of May, if such decision were made no later than April 1 of the affected year.
- (2) **Nuisance Prohibited.** No person may permit the type of public nuisance described in subsection (1) to exist on any land owned by that person.
- (3) **Town Administrator.** Any action that may be taken by the Town Administrator under this section may also be taken by a duly authorized designee of the Town Administrator.
- (4) **Inspection.** The Town Administrator is authorized to make one or more inspections of land to determine whether any public nuisance as described in subsection (1) exists. The Town Administrator is authorized to obtain a special inspection warrant pursuant to secs. 66.122 and 66.123, Stats if needed.
- (5) **Notice of Public Nuisance.**
 - (a) If the Town Administrator determines that a public nuisance as described in subsection (1) exists, he or she shall cause a written notice to be delivered to any person in violation as specified in subsection (2). The Town Administrator has the option to deliver the notice by regular mail or by personal service. If mailed, it shall be mailed to the current name and address listed in AccessDane. The

notice is effective upon mailing or personal service. The notice shall state that:

- (i) It has been determined that a public nuisance as described in subsection (1) exists on the specific property.
- (ii) The person or persons who own the land must abate the public nuisance within 10 days of the date the notice is mailed or personally served.
- (iii) In the event the person or persons who own the land do not abate the public nuisance, the Town may issue a citation and/or citations as outlined in subsection (6) below.
- (iv) In the event the person or persons who own the land do not abate the public nuisance, the Town may instead or furthermore cause the public nuisance to be abated, and the cost of such abatement shall be specially charged against the land as allowed by law.

(b) A copy of this ordinance shall be attached to the notice.

(6) **Forfeiture.** In the event a violation of this section is not corrected within the 10-day correction period, each person found guilty of such a violation shall forfeit not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$200.00 for each violation, plus costs, fees, penalties, assessments, surcharges and other charges that are or can be imposed by state law. Each day a violation occurs or exists after the effective date of the notice shall be considered a separate violation.

This Ordinance shall take effect the day after passage and publication, pursuant to state law.

The above and foregoing Town Ordinance 6.08 was duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Blooming Grove at its meeting held on the 10th day of October, 2024 by a vote of ____ in favor, ____ opposed, and ____ abstaining.

APPROVED:
TOWN OF BLOOMING GROVE

By _____
Ronald P. Bristol, Chair

ATTESTED:

Michael J. Wolf, Clerk

Approved: October 10, 2024
Published: October 11, 2024