

VILLAGE OF SILVER LAKE

ORDINANCE NO. 485

The Village Board of Silver Lake, Kenosha County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain as follows:

Ordinance No. 485 **REGULATION OF LENGTH OF LAWN AND GRASSES** is hereby created to read as follows:

REGULATION OF LENGTH OF LAWN AND GRASSES

- (a) **Purpose.** This Section is adopted due to the unique nature of the problems associated with lawns, grasses and noxious weeds being allowed to grow to excessive length in the Village of Silver Lake.
- (b) **Public Nuisance Declared.** The Village Board finds that lawns, grasses and noxious weeds on non-agricultural lots or parcels of land, as classified under the Village Zoning Code, within the Village of Silver Lake, which exceed eight (8) inches in length adversely affect the public health and safety of the public in that they tend to emit pollen and other discomfoting bits of plants, constitute a fire hazard and a safety hazard in that debris can be hidden in the grass, interferes with the public convenience and adversely affects property values of other land within the Village. For that reason, any non-agricultural lawn, grass or weeds on a lot or other parcel of land which exceeds eight (8) inches in length, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, except for property located in a designated flood plain area and/or wetland area.
- (c) **Nuisances Prohibited.** No person, firm or corporation shall permit any public nuisance as defined in Subsection (b) above to remain on any premises owned or controlled by him/her within the Village.
- (d) **Inspection.** The Weed Commissioner or his/her designee shall inspect or cause to be inspected all premises and places within the Village, to determine whether any public nuisance as defined in Subsection (b) above exists.
- (e) **Abatement of Nuisance.** If the Weed Commissioner shall determine with reasonable certainty that any public nuisance, as defined in Subsection (b) above exists, he/she shall immediately cause written notice to be served or mailed that the Village proposes to have the lot grass or lawn cut within ten (10) business days of the date of the notice.
- (f) **Village=s Option to Abate Nuisance.** In any case where the owner, occupant or person in charge of the property shall fail to cut his/her lawn, grass or weeds, as set forth above, then, and in that event, the Village may elect to cut said lawn, grass or weeds as follows:

- (1) The written notice required in Subsection (e) shall inform said person that in the event of his/her failure to abate the nuisance within the prescribed time, the Village shall abate the same and the cost thereof shall be assessed to the property owner as a special charge.
- (2) The Village shall cut or cause to be cut all grass and weeds from the subject=s property, and shall charge the expenses of so doing at a rate as established by resolution by the Village Board. The charges shall be set forth in a statement to the Village Clerk/Treasurer who, in turn, shall mail the same to the owner, occupant or person in charge of the subject premises. If said statement is not paid in full within thirty (30) days thereafter, the Village Clerk/Treasurer shall enter the charges in the tax roll as a special tax against said lot or parcel of land, and the same shall be collected in all respects like other taxes upon real estate, or as provided under Section 66.0627 Wis. Stats.

2. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage and posting as required by law.

Introduced this 26TH day of August, 2009

Adopted this 2nd day of September, 2009

VILLAGE OF SILVER LAKE

By:
ROGER JOHNSON , President

ATTEST:

TERRY FABER, Clerk/Treasurer

Voted Aye:
Voted Nay
Abstain:
Absent: