

Township of Lawrence
County of Mercer

Ordinance No. 2282-17

AN ORDINANCE REPLACING ORDINANCE NOS. 599-70 AND 1403-94 IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND
AMENDING CHAPTER 10 OF THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE
CODE ENTITLED "GARBAGE AND REFUSE"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Lawrence in the County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, that:

SECTION 1: Accumulation prohibited. No owner, lessee, tenant, mortgagee, its agent and/or assigns or occupant of lands lying within the township shall accumulate or allow to accumulate on such lands, including sidewalks and gutters thereon, lands, brush, weeds, dead or dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris, if such accumulation is adverse to the public health, safety, general welfare or creates a fire hazard.

SECTION 2: Inspections; notice to remove. The department of health and welfare shall from time to time make inspections, and if it finds any violation of section 1, or if any such violation is reported to it by the health officer, police department, fire chiefs or manager, the department of health and welfare shall give written notice to the owner, tenant, lessee or occupant to remove or correct the violations.

SECTION 3: Removal by town when owner or occupant fails to do so. In the event the owner, lessee, tenant, mortgagee, its agent and/or assigns or occupant, within ten days after such notice to such owner, tenant, lessee or occupant, shall refuse or neglect to remove the same, the township manager may provide for the removal from such lands of brush, weeds, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris or under the direction of any officer of the township the township manager may designate.

SECTION 4: Costs of removal constitute lien upon property. In all cases where brush, weeds, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris are removed from any lands by or under the direction of the manager, or such other officer as provided above, such officer shall certify the cost thereof to the township council, which shall examine the certificate, and if found correct, shall cause the cost as shown thereon to be charged against such lands, which amount so charged shall forthwith become a lien upon such lands, the same to bear interest at the same rate as taxes, and shall be collected and enforced in the same manner as taxes.

SECTION 5: Certain portions of land or certain items may be included in notice to remove. The department of health and welfare, in preparing the notice described in section 1, shall have discretion to include all or only certain portions of the lands of the owner, tenant, lessee or occupant to be served with such notice, or all or only specified types, quantities or sizes of brush, weeds, dead and dying trees, stumps, roots, obnoxious growths, filth, garbage, trash and debris, as may be described and designated in such notice.

SECTION 6: Penalty. Any person, firm or corporation violating the terms of this article shall, upon conviction in the municipal court, be punished for each offense by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for a term not to exceed ninety days, or both. Each day this article is violated shall be deemed and taken to be a separate and distinct offense.

SECTION 7: Repealer. All ordinances or parts of same inconsistent with any of the provisions of this ordinance and the code established hereunder are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 8: Severability. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9: Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days following adoption thereof in accordance with law.

Adopted: December 19, 2017

RECORD OF VOTE

COUNCIL	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	MOVE	SECOND
Mr. Bobbitt	x						
Mr. Kownacki	x						
Ms. Lewis	x						x
Mr. Powers	x					x	
Mayor Maffei	x						