

Article III. Brush, Weeds and Other Deleterious Debris and Trash.

§ 10-6 Placement of Vegetative Materials for Curbside Collection.

(a) Vegetative materials shall be placed at the front yard curb, or edge of the street or road in the front yard in a manner convenient for the township collector and that does not impede pedestrians and motorists from safely traversing the streets and sidewalks.

(1) Leaves shall be separated from all other plant materials and shall be placed loose (not in bags or other containers).

(2) Grass shall be disposed of as regular trash on normal collection days. Grass shall be bagged and placed in a garbage cart or receptacle.

(3) Tree trunks and stumps are prohibited.

(b) The owner, lessee, tenant, mortgagee, its agent and/or assigns or occupant of lands lying within the township are responsible for the vegetative material that has been placed at the front yard curb, or edge of the street or road in the front yard by commercial landscapers they have hired. Commercial landscapers and/or tree contractors are prohibited from placing trees, segments thereof, and branches on the front yard curb, or edge of the street or road in the front yard for municipal curbside collection, and an owner, lessee, tenant, mortgagee, its agent and/or assigns or occupant shall be responsible for any such violation of this subparagraph by his, her or their commercial landscaper and/or tree contractor.

(c) For the purposes of collecting vegetative materials, the township is divided into four (4) zones (see zone map). Vegetative materials shall be collected in Zone 1 during the week containing the first Monday in the month, Zone 2 during the week containing the second Monday, Zone 3 during the week containing the third Monday, and Zone 4 during the week containing the fourth Monday. Vegetative materials shall be put out the Saturday or Sunday immediately preceding the week in which a zone is to have collection.

§10-7 Dimension and Size of Vegetative Materials for Curbside Collection.

(a) Vegetative materials shall be placed in an area of the street or road edge not greater than four feet (4') from the edge of the pavement.

(b) Vegetative materials shall be piled not greater than three feet (3') in height and twelve (12') feet in length.

(c) Trees, or segments thereof, and branches greater than six inches (6") in diameter may not be disposed of through municipal curbside collection.

(d) Trees, or segments thereof, branches and twigs shall not exceed three feet (3') in length.

§ 10-8 Accumulation prohibited; collection only in front yard.

(a) 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, gutters and catch basins 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.

(b) Vegetative materials shall only be piled in and collected from front yards in conformance with the collection schedule for such materials established in subsection 10-6(c) above.

(c) Owners, lessees, tenants, mortgagees, their agents and/or assigns or occupants are prohibited from adding, or allowing the addition of, their vegetative materials to other piles or collections located in the front yard of neighboring or adjacent properties, or from piling for collection by the township such vegetative materials in the rear or the side yards of their property(ies). Nothing herein shall prohibit an owner, lessee, tenants, mortgagees, their agents and/or assigns from temporarily piling vegetative materials in other areas of their property(ies) until it is the proper time to place such materials in the front yard for collection.

§ 10-9 Inspections; notice to remove.

Inspections; notice to remove. The department of health, department of public works, or police department shall from time to time make inspections, and if any such department finds any violation of this article, or if any such violation is reported to it by a township officer or employee, shall give written notice to the owner, tenant, lessee, mortgagee, its agent and/or assigns or occupant to remove or correct the violations.

§ 10-10 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.

§ 10-11 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.

§ 10-12 Certain portions of land or certain items may be included in notice to remove.

The department of health, department of public works, or police department in preparing the notice described in this article, shall have discretion to include all or only certain portions of the lands of the owner, tenant, lessee, mortgagee, its agents or assigns 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.

§ 10-13 Article applicable to commercial landscapers.

The provisions of this article, including, but not limited to accumulation of and size and dimensions of vegetative materials, are also applicable to commercial landscapers as defined in this chapter. Commercial landscapers must register with the township as set forth in article IV herein.

§ 10-14 Penalties.

Any person violating the terms of this article shall, upon conviction in the municipal court, be punished as follows:

- (a) For the first offense, a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500);**
- (b) For the second offense, a fine of seventy hundred and fifty dollars (\$750); and**
- (c) For the third offense and any subsequent offenses thereafter, a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1000) or imprisonment for a term not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both.**