

Section 201-16 Cutting of Grass, Weeds and Bushes Abutting Streets

Existing code:

The owner or occupant of any lot or parcel of land fronting on any public street or avenue in the Village of Athens shall be and hereby is required to cut the grass, weeds and bushes along such street or avenue abutting such lot or parcel of land so that the property is maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 10 inches. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. "Weeds" shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs; provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens. Whenever the owner or occupant fails to cut the grass, weeds and bushes, the Village shall perform such work and add the cost thereof to the property tax tolls."

Proposed amended code:

The owner or occupant of any lot or parcel of land fronting on any public street or avenue in the Village of Athens shall be and hereby is required to cut the grass and weeds along such street or avenue abutting such lot or parcel of land so that the property is maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of **8 inches**. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. "Weeds" shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs; provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers, gardens or hedgerows. Hedgerows shall however, be pruned as to not overlap any sidewalk or impede visibility for drivers, cyclists or pedestrians. When a property owner or occupant fails to cut the grass and weeds, the Village shall inform the property owner of the violation in writing. Property owner will then be given 10 days to correct said violation and may request a hearing with the Village Board, during such period to offer any defenses or claims.

If the property owner fails to perform such work within the given timeframe the Village will do so and add the cost thereof **plus fees** to the property owner's village tax bill. Upon first offense, the fee shall be \$100.00 in addition to the cost of the services provided by the village. Upon second offense the fee shall be \$250.00 in addition to the cost of the services provided by the village. Upon third offense the fee shall be \$500.00 in addition to the cost of the services provided by the village. Upon fourth or any subsequent offense the fee shall be \$1000.00 per offense in addition to the cost of the services provided by the village.