

HAZELTON TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

WEED ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 2024-2

AN ORDINANCE to secure the public health, safety and welfare of residents and property owners by the control and regulation of noxious weeds and grass within certain areas of the Township; to provide penalties for the violation thereof; to repeal conflicting ordinances; to provide for publication and an effective date.

The Township of Hazelton ordains:

Section 1 — TITLE

This ordinance shall be known as the “Hazelton Township Weed Ordinance.”

Section 2 — DEFINITION

The term “noxious weeds” shall include but not be limited to Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), doddgers (any species of *Cuscuta*), mustards (charlock, black mustard and Indian mustard, species of *Brassica* or *Sinapis*), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*); perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*), hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*), ragweed (*ambrosia elatior*), poison ivy (*rhus toxicodendron*), and poison sumac (*toxicodendron vernix*).

Section 3 — REGULATIONS

1. It shall be the duty of all owners of land as specified in this ordinance and on which noxious weeds are growing to destroy said weeds before they reach a seed-bearing stage and prevent their re-growth, or shall prevent them from becoming a detriment to public health.
2. It shall be the duty of all owners of land as specified in this ordinance and upon which grass is growing to keep such grass at a height of not more than nine (9) inches.

Section 4 — LOCATION

1. This ordinance shall apply to the front, side, and back yards of parcels of land along roads or streets in common usage, which is the area that has historically been maintained as lawn.
2. This ordinance shall not apply to parcels of land devoted to growing any commercial grain or farm crops or government conservation programs.

Section 5 — SANCTIONS

If any person shall fail to comply with the provisions of this ordinance by the specified time, the Township Supervisor or delegate responsible for enforcement of Township ordinances shall cause all such noxious weeds to be cut or destroyed upon lands of the person not complying with the provisions of this Ordinance. The Township shall keep an account of expenses incurred with respect to each parcel of land which is entered upon in carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance. In order to reimburse the Township for its expenses in administering the inspection, scheduling, and notification procedures required under this Ordinance, there shall be an annual one-time fee which

shall be charged to the owner as provided below.

Effective the date of this Ordinance and until changed by resolution, the following fees and rates shall be applied: Administrative Fee: \$200.00; Hourly Rate: \$100.00.

Further, any person or other entity who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance may be responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by Michigan law and subject to a civil fine.

Section 6 — SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and should any provision, section, or part thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of such Ordinance, which shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 7 — EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect upon its publication, and all ordinances or any part of any ordinance in conflict with this ordinance shall be repealed.