

FRIDLEY CITY CODE
CHAPTER 105. LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
(Ref . 397, 1232)

105.01. PURPOSE

The purpose of this section of city code is to establish minimum standards for landscape maintenance and to protect surface water quality by allowing natural areas where they can benefit water quality throughout the City.

105.02. DEFINITIONS

1. Designated Natural Area. An area of native plants that has never been disturbed or an area intentionally planted with native perennial vegetation greater than ten (10) inches in height that has an edged border separating it from areas of turf grass.
2. Garden. A cultivated area dedicated to the growing of vegetables, fruit, flowers, perennials, shrubs, and similar plants that were specifically planted in that location and common weeds are not the predominant vegetation.
3. Landscape. The area of a parcel of land that is not covered with an impervious surface.
4. Lot. A parcel of land adjacent to a street or road, including the right-of-way between the property and the curb.
5. Noxious Weeds. Includes both prohibited noxious weeds and secondary noxious weeds as defined by the State of Minnesota Department of Agriculture. (Note: this does not include dandelions.)
6. Right-of-Way. The area on, below, or above a public roadway, highway, alley, street, bicycle lane, public sidewalk, and boulevard in which the City has an interest, including the dedicated rights-of-way for travel purposes and utility easements of the City. A right-of-way does not include the airwaves above a right-of-way with regard to cellular or other nonwire telecommunications or broadcast service.
7. Waterway. Any body of water that receives storm water runoff, including wetlands, lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, and reservoirs. Shall not include water flowing on streets, or pooling for less than 24 hours on private property after a rain event.
8. Wooded Area. An area of trees and other native plant materials identified as follows: for every 100 square feet of area considered, there shall not be less than six (6) trees, each of a six inch (6") caliper measurement, measured at a point of six inches (6") above grade from the base of each tree measured.

105.03. REQUIRED MAINTENANCE

Landscape areas of all properties must be maintained by the owner to be free of noxious weeds. Ground cover, except for trees and shrubs, in landscaped areas may not exceed ten (10) inches in average height except for gardens and designated natural areas. Designated natural areas which do not need to be edged include: drainage ponds, ditches, lakeshore areas, parks, 3 to 1 or greater slopes, stream banks, vacant lots, wetlands, or wooded areas. Landscaped areas must be kept free of litter. Vegetation shall not be permitted to be overgrown or encroach onto adjacent properties. Failure to comply is a nuisance.

105.04. INTERVENTION BY THE CITY

If the provisions of Section 105.03 are not complied with, the city manager or his/her designee shall give written notice to the owner of the property in violation. If the property owner fails to bring the violating property into compliance with Section 105.03 within the time specified or if the owner of the property cannot be located, designated city staff shall have the landscape brought into compliance and invoice the property owner for the cost of such service and abatement administrative cost. If the property owner fails to pay the invoiced cost within 30 days, the invoiced cost of these services and an additional 25% assessment fee will be certified to Anoka County and assessed to the property's taxes.

105.05. PROTECTION OF WATERWAYS

1. In addition to proper landscape maintenance, all property owners in the City of Fridley must protect surface water quality through the following measures:

- A. No person is permitted to deposit leaves, grass clippings, or other plant waste within twenty-five (25) feet of a waterway or ten (10) feet of a bluff line, whichever is greater.
- B. No person is permitted to deposit or store yard waste of any kind in a right-of-way or roadway, except as permitted in Chapter 113 or in the process of maintaining the right-of-way.
- C. Extreme care must be taken to prevent landscape fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides from falling on a paved surface. Any applied granular landscape fertilizer, pesticide, or herbicide must be swept from any paved surfaces immediately upon completion of application as specified in State Statutes. Commercial lawn care product applicators must post public notification signs when lawn care products are applied. No person shall remove such signs for 48 hours, as required by law.

105.06. PENALTIES

Any violation of this Chapter is a misdemeanor and is subject to all penalties provided for such violations under the provisions of Chapter 901 of this Code. Each day the violation exists or continues to exist shall be deemed a separate offense.