

## CHAPTER 52

# WEED CONTROL

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**52.01 DUTY OF OWNER TO CUT.** All weeds and grasses in excess of eight inches in length are deemed to constitute a health, safety, and fire hazard, and the owner of any lots or parcels of ground shall cut or otherwise destroy all such weeds and grasses on the owner's lots or parcels of ground.

**52.02 STREET COMMISSIONER TO CUT.** In the event of the failure of the owner of a lot or parcel of ground to comply with the above section, it shall be the duty of the Street Commissioner to cause the same to be done.

**52.03 NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS TO CUT.** At least five days before the Street Commissioner shall cut or destroy any weeds or grasses as provided in Section 52.02, notice shall be served on the property owner by certified mail, notifying the property owner that unless the weeds or grasses are cut or destroyed before the dates stated in the notice, the City will cut or destroy such weeds or grasses and assess the costs thereof to the owner of the lot or parcel of ground.

**52.04 COSTS OF CUTTING.** Whenever the Street Commissioner does any work under the provisions of Section 52.02, said official shall charge an hourly rate in an amount set by resolution of the Council for such work.

**52.05 ASSESSMENT OF COSTS.** If the property owner does not cut or destroy the weeds or grasses before the date stated in the notice, the City may assess the costs against the property for collection in the same manner as a property tax. In addition to assessing the costs in the same manner as a property tax, the City may also seek reimbursement for the costs of cutting or destroying the weeds by a civil action for damages against the property owner.

**52.06 PROCEDURE FOR MAKING AND LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT.** The procedures for making and levying a special assessment pursuant to this chapter and for an appeal of the assessment are the same procedures as provided in Chapters 384.59 - 384.75 and Chapters 384.72 - 384.75, *Code of Iowa*.

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