



HENRICO COUNTY

Department of Community Revitalization

TALL GRASS and WEEDS

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE

The Division works cooperatively with citizens through education, volunteer assistance, and communication to gain voluntary compliance with county codes to promote a healthier and safer environment. Our motto is "Service through communication and care."

DID YOU KNOW?

Overgrown vegetation is prohibited from being cut when the area is required to remain natural to serve as a buffer or is located in a protected wetland. Questions about buffers and protected wetlands can be answered by calling the Department of Community Revitalization at (804) 501-4757.

HENRICO COUNTY CODE

Section 10-135 of the Henrico County Code defines weeds as any "grass, weeds, bushes, poison ivy, poison oak or any other foreign growth other than trees, ornamental shrubbery, flowers and garden vegetables."

WHAT DOES THE CODE REQUIRE?

Article V of the County Code restricts weed and grass growth to 12 inches in height on the following properties:

- Developed Property - vacant or occupied, residential or commercial - must cut weeds and grass within 150 feet of adjacent property and public streets.
- Undeveloped Property - must cut weeds and grass within 150 feet of adjacent developed property.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A VIOLATION IS OBSERVED?

A Community Maintenance Inspector will respond to a violation by contacting the property owner to explain the code and how to reach compliance. The inspector will make every effort to contact the property owner in person by leaving business cards, brochures, and notices at the property and/or following up by the U.S. mail. Voluntary compliance is the goal of our program. However, if voluntary compliance is not reached by the deadline date, the County may respond by hiring a contractor to cut the weeds and grass and billing the cost of doing so to the property owner.



PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

The County Code requires one written Notice of Violation to be issued during a 12-month period. Additional violations during a 12-month period may be cut by the County's contractor without further notice and the cost billed to the property owner.

HOW DO I REPORT A VIOLATION?

If you are aware of a property in Henrico County that is in violation of this ordinance, please contact the Division of Community Maintenance. The Build Henrico website and phone hotline are available 24 hours per day. When you report a problem, you will be required to give your name and telephone number. This information is kept confidential and will not be released under any circumstances. It will be used only when County staff require additional information to investigate the case or to update you on the status of your concern. Visit <https://henrico.us/build> or call (804) 501-4757, Option 1, to report a violation.