HOW DO I REPORT A VIOLATION?

If you are aware of a property in Henrico County that is in violation of these ordinances, please call the Division of Community Maintenance hotline at (804) 501-4757. **The hotline is available to address your concerns 24 hours per day.** When you call to 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 complainants of the status of their concerns.

24 Hour Hotline: (804) 501-4757

For more information or to report violations, please visit our website:

www.co.henrico.va.us/maint

Proud of our progress;
Excited about our future.

DID YOU KNOW?

Overgrowth 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.

HELP US HELP YOU...

Properties with high grass and weeds frequently have other ordinance violations. If you call to report a violation, advise our staff of the following:

1) The address of the property.
2) Is the property vacant or occupied?
3) Are there inoperable vehicles on the property?
4) Is there any trash or other debris on the property that is not stored in a watertight container?

Revised Spring 2010

County of Henrico, Virginia

Grass and Weed Ordinance

Department of Community Revitalization

P.O. Box 90775
Henrico, VA 23273-0775
Phone: (804) 501-4757
Fax: (804) 501-7630

www.co.henrico.va.us/maint

MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Community Revitalization coordinates the County's programs and services intended to promote healthy, vibrant, and attractive residential, commercial, and industrial communities.

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. The Division's motto is: "Service through communication and care"

PURPOSE OF BROCHURE

This brochure describes the laws that prohibit the overgrowth of grass and weeds. Preventing unsightly overgrowth is important to the people who live and work in Henrico County, as well as to prospective businesses and residents.

HENRICO COUNTY CODE

Section 10-151 of the Henrico County Code defines weeds as "any grass, weeds, bushes, poison ivy, poison oak, or any other vegetative growth other than trees, ornamental shrubbery, flowers, and garden vegetables".

WHAT IS THE HEIGHT LIMIT?

The County Code restricts weed growth to 12 inches in height on the following properties:

1) Any vacant or developed property that is located within the boundaries of a platted subdivision.
2) Any property zoned for residential, business, commercial, or industrial use must cut weeds/grass that is within 250 feet of property developed for residential use.
3) Owners of residential properties are required to maintain their yard areas at 12 inches or less.

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 dwelling and 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 grass and weeds and billing the costs of doing so to the property owner. Any unpaid bill will be assessed as a lien against the property and shown on the property owner's tax bill. The owners of occupied residential real property are subject to being fined a civil penalty of up to $100 if convicted of a violation. All other violators are subject to a fine of up to $250.