

City Page
April 1, 2010

Code Compliance: High Grass & Weeds

Spring time brings beautiful flowers, growing grass, and, unfortunately, unsightly weeds. So, spring is the perfect time to remind everyone of City ordinance requirements regarding high grass and weeds.

Why is the City concerned about grass and weeds on private property? The first thing you might think of is that high grass and weeds are an unsightly eyesore that diminishes the appearance of our neighborhoods, and can bring down property values. What you may not realize is that high grass and weeds can be dangerous too because tall grass also:

- Poses a fire hazard,
- Blocks visibility,
- Harbors rodents and snakes, and
- Contributes to pests like mosquitoes and chiggers

Joshua City Ordinances say that property owners are responsible for maintaining their lots, and that grass and weeds that average over 12 inches high are a violation.

To stay within Code, property owners should keep lots mowed to less than 12 inches. If your grass is taller than 12 inches, you may receive a certified notice to mow your yard and will have 10 days to complete the task. If the lot is not mowed after 10 days, the City can hire a contractor to complete the job and charge the property owners for mowing costs and labor. If the City mows the property and the property owner fails to pay the bill, the City can place a lien against the property. Liens stay with the property and are assessed interest penalties until they are paid.

By far, the cheaper, most efficient and safest alternative is for owners to keep lots maintained so that they are less than 12 inches.

Spring Community Cleanup

The city's Spring Cleanup scheduled for March 26-28, 2010 was a huge success. City Public Works personnel assisted 609 residents drop off debris. Early estimates are that more than 540 yards of furniture, exercise equipment, toys, bikes, and shelving. Additionally, another 200 yards is estimated for limbs and brush.

2010 Census Workers Available at City Hall

While the 2010 Census is underway, Census Representatives are available to assist Monday – Friday from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon in City Hall. Census staff will be on hand until April 19, 2010. If you have any questions on filling out the 2010 Census, please come by and visit with a representative.

Mulch Available to Residents at No Cost

Residents are reminded that mulch is available to those who would like it from the city at no cost. Fresh mulch is available currently for pick up at the city street department service center. For more information please call 817-558-7447 or visit the website at www.cityofjoshuatx.us

Upcoming Meetings and Events.

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting April 5, 2010 at 6:30 pm

Type A EDC Board Meeting April 12, 2010 at 6:30 pm

Type B EDC and Parks Board Meeting April 13, 2010 at 7:00 pm