

City Page
July 1, 2010

Remember Popping Individual Fireworks is Illegal within the City Limits

Professional fireworks displays are allowed within the City limits with a permit. However, the purchase, sale and ignition of individual fireworks within the corporate limits of the City is prohibited by ordinance. Violators can be fined up to \$2,000, so please do not pop fireworks within the City limits this 4th of July or any time.

Code Compliance: High Grass & Weeds

In an effort to build a safer and more attractive community, the City of Joshua has initiated more proactive enforcement of many City codes. First and foremost, we want to be sure that property owners know the major code requirements, so that residents and property owners can be sure you stay in compliance. To this end, the City will begin highlighting the major code requirements each week in the City Page in an effort to educate residents on what each code means.

Spring time brings beautiful flowers, growing grass, and, unfortunately, unsightly weeds. So, spring is an appropriate time to highlight City requirements related to high grass and weeds.

People often wonder: Why is the City concerned about grass and weeds on private property? The first thing people normally think of is that high grass and weeds are an unsightly eyesore that decreases the beauty and ambience of our neighborhoods, and can bring down property values.

What residents 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.

Need a Permit

Various ordinances within the City Limits require that prior to construction, a permit may need to be issued from the City. Permits are required to assure buildings that are new construction are built in compliance with International Building Codes. These codes are designed to protect the property owner by inspecting the work your contractor performs and make sure they are completed properly. If you are planning a home improvement project, it is the property owner who is responsible for the permit.

For more information on city permits, please call 817-558-7447 or visit the website at www.cityofjoshuatx.us

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Joshua City Fireworks Display July 4, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at Owl Stadium

City Offices Closed July 5, 2010

Joshua Animal Advisory Board July 6, 2010 6:30 pm at 102 S. Main

Joshua Planning and Zoning Board Meeting July 6, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Joshua Type A Economic Development Board Meeting July 12, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Joshua Type B Economic Development Board Meeting July 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Joshua City Council Meeting July 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.