

CHAPTER 2012-62

No. 619

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13, SECTION 190
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENTITLED: "SANITARY
LAWN MAINTENANCE"**

Approved November 8, 2012
Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

SECTION 1. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Chapter 13, Section 190 is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 13-190. – Sanitary Lawn and Yard Maintenance.

(a) Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect public health and safety through the maintenance of lawns and yards. Unmaintained and overgrown lawns and yards are known to attract rodents, vermin, and mosquitoes, encourage illegal dumping and littering, create fire hazards, and impede the safe passage of pedestrians along sidewalk areas, thereby lowering the quality of life in the city.

(b) Requirements

Every owner or agent having the care of residential property shall be responsible for maintaining the premises. Grass, weeds, vegetation, and underbrush shall be maintained to a height not to exceed eight (8) inches. Plantings shall be maintained so as not to present hazards to adjoining properties or to persons or vehicles traveling on public streets and sidewalks. Natural debris, including yard clippings, leaves, and branches shall be gathered and disposed of as yard waste.

(c) Penalties and Enforcement

The provisions of this section shall be enforced by the Department of Public Works Environmental Division. Whenever a property is found to be in violation of this section, written notification of the violation shall be transmitted to the owner of the property in accordance with Section 13-37 of the Code of Ordinances. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall result in a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each day the property is non-compliant after the notification has been transmitted, each day of non-compliance constitutes a new violation of the ordinance. Whenever any violation of this section which in the opinion of the director of the Department of Public Works causes a direct hazard or immediate peril to the health, safety or welfare of the residents of Providence, or if a property has not been brought into compliance with this section within thirty (30) days of the notification being transmitted, the director of the Department of Public Works may take such direct action as is necessary to alleviate the violation. In accordance with Section 13-37 of the Code of Ordinances, the owner of the property shall be served a notice stating the amount of the expenses incurred by the director in bringing the property into compliance. In every case, expenses shall be the costs necessary to perform the required work as expeditiously as possible, together with a ten (10) per cent service charge in addition

thereto. The expenses incurred by the director shall constitute a lien against the real property and such liens shall be enforced in the manner provided or authorized by law for the enforcement of common law liens on personal property. Such liens shall be recorded and shall incur legal interest from the date of recording.

SECTION 2. Upon passage of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 185 approved May 1, 2006, shall be repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL
OCT 18 2012
FIRST READING
READ AND PASSED

Anna M. Stebbins CLERK

IN CITY
COUNCIL
NOV 01 2012
FINAL READING
READ AND PASSED

[Signature]
PRESIDENT
Anna M. Stebbins
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE

[Signature]
Mayor
Date: 11/8/12