



Executive Summary

City Council Business Meeting

AGENDA ITEM:	Ordinance 2026-343 Amending City Code Chapter 6, Article 2 Nuisance Code Enforcement
PREPARED BY:	Kevin Larson, Assistant City Administrator
RECOMMENDED ACTION: 2 Motions	1. Motion to Approve Ordinance 2026-343 Amending City Code Chapter 6, Article 2 Nuisance Code Enforcement. 2. Motion to Approve Ordinance 343- Amending Chapter 6, Article 2 - Nuisance Violation Summary Publication

Background:

The suggested revisions to City for nuisances (chapter 6 article 2) further define the steps, timelines, or administrative responsibilities. Leading to procedural consistencies, clear expectations for property owners, define how repeat nuisance violations are handled, and provide details on abatement cost recovery.

Reasons for the potential changes

1. Clarity and consistency.
2. Accountability and transparency
3. Efficient enforcement and cost recovery

Proposed alterations summaries

Updated and Expanded Definitions (Sec. 6-27)

The ordinance updates the definition of “noxious weed” to align with plants designated by the Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture as harmful to public health, the environment, infrastructure, or property.

Defining the City Administrator’s Actions in Enforcement (Sec. 6-31)

The ordinance requires staff to investigate a complaint that is reported and documented to the City within ten (10) business days and to issue a compliance order if a nuisance is confirmed. If the order is not followed, the matter must be sent to the City Council for proper action. It also clarifies that nuisance determinations may be appealed under the procedures outlined in Section 1-21.

Abatement of nuisance by City Council. (Sec. 6-33)

(a) Assigns a process for the abatement procedure.

1. Hearing
2. After compliance is ordered, allows for the residents to abate in a reasonable time
3. Defines injunctive relief to abate the nuisance

Also, removes the verbiage of the recovery of costs. This will be addressed in Sec. 6-36.

(b) defines the conditions that allow the City to deviate from the standard abatement procedures and defines the Cities actions following a summary abatement.

Immediate hazard abatement (Sec. 6-34)

Defines the City's action after an immediate hazard abatement.

Recovery of Costs (Sec. 6-35)

(a) This addition defines the personal liability of the property owner for public nuisances and defines the actions of the City.

(b) defines that a public health or safety hazard recovery costs can be assessed on the following Council's determination.

Council Direction

Staff recommend amending City Code with these adjustments. Amending these changes to the City's nuisance enforcement framework could reinforce the City's commitment to fair, transparent, and consistent code enforcement. These updates could strengthen the City's ability to recover costs, and support high community standards for health, safety, and property maintenance.

Exhibits

- A. Ordinance No. 343 Amending City Code Chapter 6, Article 2 Nuisance Violation