



City of Maple Plain
5050 Independence Street
Maple Plain, MN 55359
(763) 479-0515
www.mapleplainmn.gov

Date: July 18, 2025

Gerald M. Esnough
1764 Howard Avenue
Maple Plain, MN 55359

Dear Mr. Esnough,

The City of Maple Plain has observed on 7/2/25 and confirmed on 7/14/25 that the vegetation at your property located at 1764 Howard Avenue appears to be in violation of City Code Sec. 6-28(3), which requires grass and weeds to be maintained at a height of less than eight (8) inches. While the Code provides an exemption for native or pollinator-supportive plantings, these plantings must be of a planned, intentional, and maintained nature and must not include any noxious weeds.

Minnesota Statutes § 412.925 further supports the right of property owners to install and maintain a managed natural landscape, which may exceed eight inches in height provided it is (1) planned, (2) intentional, and (3) maintained. This includes native and nonnative vegetation such as wildflowers and ornamental plants but excludes turf-grass lawns left unattended for the purpose of returning to a natural state. The law prohibits the presence of noxious weeds and requires consistent upkeep.

At this time, the vegetation at your property does not demonstrate the characteristics of a planned or maintained landscape and appears to be unmanaged tall grass and weeds. Although certain plants such as daisies are not classified as noxious under the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law, City Code and State Statute require that plantings be actively maintained and purposeful in their arrangement.

As authorized under City Code Sec. 6-28(3) and Minn. Stat. § 18.83, the City may enter the property and abate vegetation that presents a nuisance if not corrected within seven (7) days of this notice. Furthermore, per City Code Sec. 6-34, the cost of such abatement may be assessed to your property.

Please take action to bring your property into compliance within seven (7) calendar days of the date of this letter. If you believe your yard qualifies as a managed natural landscape, we ask that you provide documentation or a maintenance plan for City review, including evidence that the plantings are intentional, regularly maintained, and free of noxious weeds.

If no corrective action is taken within the specified timeframe, the City may proceed with abatement and assess associated costs to your property.

If you wish to dispute this notice, you must submit a written request for a hearing before the City Council within seven (7) calendar days from the date of this letter. This request must be filed with the City Administrator at cityadmin@mapleplainmn.gov.

Should you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact City Hall at (763) 479-0515.

For reference, included with this letter, documentation of the notice of nuisance violation, sustainable natural landscape resource, and a native plant garden design guide by Carmen Simonet Design LLC.

Sincerely,

Kevin Larson
Assistant City Administrator
City of Maple Plain
klarson@mapleplainmn.gov
763-479-0515