

Code Section	Issue	Problem	Specific Code	Existing Language	Proposed Language	Notes/ Comments/To-Do's
<a href="#">§ 356</a>	Native Landscaping plan and permit required	Native landscaping currently requires a separate permit, plan and approval process. This may be a deterrent to property owners who want to plant native plants. Native plants allow stormwater to soak into the ground better than annuals/perennials and turf grass. Most stormwater facilities are designed with native plants, which are approved via the Erosion Control & Storm Water Runoff Permit.	356 - Article 1			Create exemptions
	Definitions (additions)		§ 356-1	As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:		
					INVASIVE SPECIES Nonindigenous species whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.	
					RAIN GARDEN A storm water management practice consisting of a shallow depression planted with a dense cover of vegetation, designed to capture storm water runoff <sup>1</sup> from a small drainage area and infiltrate it into the underlying soil.	
					STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) Structural or non-structural measures, practices, techniques or devices employed to avoid or minimize soil, sediment or pollutants carried by stormwater runoff to waters of the state. Examples include wet or dry detention ponds, infiltration basins, biofilters, buffers, and constructed wetlands.	
					SHORELINE / STREAMBANK The sloped areas alongside streams, creeks and rivers that connect the stream to its floodplain.	
					WETLANDS An area where water is at, near or above the land urface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation, and which has soils indicative of wet conditions.	

					WETLAND DELINEATION A precise wetland boundary survey that meets federal and state regulations and is completed by a wetland professional.	
					WETLAND DETERMINATION A decision regarding whether or not an area is a wetland, including identification of wetland type and size.	
			<a href="#">§ 356-2 A.</a>	A. The growth of natural landscapes in excess of eight inches in height shall be prohibited within the City, unless a natural landscape management plan is approved and a permit is issued by the City as set forth in this article.	A. The growth of natural landscapes in excess of eight inches in height shall be prohibited within the City, unless a natural landscape management plan is approved and a permit is issued by the City as set forth in this article except as provided under Subsection a.	
					a. Exemptions.	
					i. Approved stormwater management practice (BMP);	
					Rain Gardens designed to capture and infiltrate rooftop runoff following the WDNR Technical Standard 1009	
					ii. Designated wetlands, as shown on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Surface Water Data Viewer Mapped Wetlands layer <a href="https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/swdv">https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/swdv</a> , or in a wetland delineation report or wetland determination compiled by a qualified professional.	
					iii. Shoreland/streambank areas not more than 15 feet from the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) or the top of slope, whichever is greater.	
					iii. An area less than 50 percent of the surface area of the property not otherwise occupied by buildings, structures, or improvements and meets the requirements of 356-B., C. and D.	
			<a href="#">§ 356-2 C.</a>	C. Natural landscaping on any City-owned property within any street right-of-way is strictly prohibited. This shall include the property between the sidewalk and street and not less than 10 feet adjacent to the street where there is no sidewalk.	C. Natural landscaping on any City-owned property within any street right-of-way is strictly prohibited unless approved by the Director of Public Works/City Engineer. This shall include the property between the sidewalk and street and not less than 10 feet adjacent to the street where there is no sidewalk.	

			<a href="#">§ 356-2 G.</a>	G. Natural landscapes may constitute a fire or safety hazard, due to weather conditions or other conditions. The Street Department, the Weed Commissioner may order natural landscapes cut due to such conditions. As a condition of receiving approval of the natural landscape permit, the property owner shall be required to cut the natural landscape within three days upon receiving a written letter from the City of Watertown's Weed Commissioner.	G. Natural landscapes may constitute a fire or safety hazard, due to weather conditions or other conditions. The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, the Weed Commissioner may order natural landscapes cut due to such conditions. As a condition of receiving approval of the natural landscape permit, the property owner shall be required to cut the natural landscape within three days upon receiving a written letter from the City of Watertown's Weed Commissioner.	
			<a href="#">§ 356-3</a>	The following noxious grasses or weeds will not be allowed in a natural landscape area:	The following noxious grasses or weeds and other invasive species as listed in the Wiscosnin Department of Natural Resources NR 40 will not be allowed in a natural landscape area:	
			<a href="#">§ 356-4</a>	Property owners interested in applying for a natural landscape permit shall submit a natural landscape management plan to the Street Department, attention Weed Commissioner. All plans received will be reviewed by the Weed Commissioner and the Public Works Commission for permit approval. The property owner will be notified in writing by the City of Watertown of approval or denial. If no notification is received within 45 days of the property owner's initial submittal, the plans shall be deemed approved. The plan, permit and letter of notification will remain on file at the Street Department, Weed Commissioner's office for future reference.	Property owners interested in applying for a natural landscape permit shall submit a natural landscape management plan to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department attention Weed Commissioner. All plans received will be reviewed by the Weed Commissioner and the Public Works Commission for permit approval. The property owner will be notified in writing by the City of Watertown of approval or denial. If no notification is received within 45 days of the property owner's initial submittal, the plans shall be deemed approved. The plan, permit and letter of notification will remain on file at the Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Weed Commissioner's office for future reference.	