

**Responses from County, City, Township, and Village Governments in Calhoun County
to JALP's Inquiry (4/26-27/09) About Noxious-Weeds and Nuisance Ordinances
(and Zoning Ordinances as They Involve Nuisances)**

as of 10:30am Fri 5/1/09

County

County ordinances are on line at: <http://www.CalhounCountyMI.org/ReferenceDesk/Ordinances.htm>

However, no posted ordinances address noxious weeds or nuisances by name. The Calhoun County Farmland Preservation Ordinance should involve land use, of course – and it mentions the authority of the then-County Zoning Act (now replaced by the 2006 Michigan Zoning Enabling Act). But about the best mentions *jalp* can find of the topic of nuisances are Section 13.2 of the Animal Control and Protection Ordinance and item F3 in Section VIII of the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance.

Cities

Albion: No response yet.

Battle Creek: The city's Code of Ordinances is on line at

http://www.AmLegal.com/Battle_Creek_MI/

Chapter 652: Nuisances

Chapter 692: Weeds and Noxious Vegetation

Marshall: No response yet.

Springfield: The city's Code of Ordinances is on line at

<http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?sid=22&pid=10709>

A search for the term "nuisance" yielded 20 results in various chapters of the Code. The result most relevant to noxious weeds is Chapter 18 (ENVIRONMENT), Article III (Noxious Weeds and Female Box Elder Trees), Sections 18.61-18.69 (18.70-18.90 reserved).

NOTE: The agenda for the May 4 City Council meeting includes consideration of a Blight Ordinance.

Townships

Albion: No response yet.

Athens: No response yet.

Bedford: No response yet.

Burlington: No ordinance on noxious weeds or nuisances in general. The township does have a zoning ordinance (available at the Burlington Township Library) which mentions the term "nuisance" somewhat.

Clarence: No response yet.

Clarendon: No response yet.

Convis: The Clerk has "checked the general and zoning ordinances of Convis Township and ha[s] not found an ordinance in force regarding 'nuisance' nor 'noxious weeds'."

Eckford: No ordinance on noxious weeds or nuisances in general. The zoning ordinance (available in a number of MS Word files, in a hard copy for \$10, or for inspection at the town hall by appointment) mentions the term "nuisance" somewhat.

Emmett: No response yet.

Fredonia: No response yet.

Homer: A copy of the township's zoning ordinance is available at the Homer Public Library; the Clerk reports that it is not "on line or in a file we are able to e-mail. It is my understanding that our nuisance ordinance would be part of our zoning ordinance. We have not yet encountered any noxious weed issues as of yet."

Lee: No response yet.

Leroy: "Leroy Township does not have a noxious weed ordinance adopted." The zoning ordinance can be purchased on CD for \$10. (It is not confirmed whether that ordinance mentions the term "nuisance" or not.) All ordinances are available for inspection during the township's regular business hours, Tue-Thu 9am-4:30pm.

Marengo: No response yet.

Marshall: The township has a nuisance ordinance, but uses state law (MCL §§ 247.64a and 247.65) to address issues of noxious weeds.

Newton: "[A]t this time we do not have a nuisance ordinance."

Pennfield: No response yet.

Sheridan: Township Clerk asked for more time to reply – pointing out that school elections were complicated in Sheridan ("three school districts and two counties involved"). *jalp* allowed as how that was fair enough.

Tekonsha: No response yet.

Villages

Athens: No response yet.

Burlington: No response yet.

Homer: No response yet.

Tekonsha: No response yet.