

ORDINANCE #26-XXX

**CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF
MINNESOTA**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 30 (NUISANCES)
AND CHAPTER 106 (ZONING CODE)**

The City of Ramsey Ordains:

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to and under the authority of the City Charter of the City of Ramsey.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 30 (NUISANCE CODE).

The following portion of Chapter 30, Section 1 (Definitions), is amended as follows:

Sec. 30-1. – Definitions

Managed natural landscape means a planned, intentional and maintained planting of native or non-native grasses, wildflowers, forbs, ferns, shrubs, or trees, including but not limited to rain gardens, meadow vegetation, and ornamental plantings. It does not include turf-grass lawns left unattended or unmaintained for the purpose of returning to a natural state.

Meadow vegetation means grasses and flowering broad-leaf plants that are native to, or adapted to, the State of Minnesota, and that are commonly found in meadow and prairie plant communities, excluding noxious weeds.

Noxious weeds shall have the meaning assigned by Minnesota Statutes, Section 18.77, Subd. 8.

The following portion of Chapter 30, Section 3 (Property Conditions), is amended as follows:

Sec. 30-3. – Property Conditions

- (2) Grass, weeds, or noxious growths.
 - a. All grass, weeds, or noxious growths of vegetation upon public or private property exceeding eight inches in height, excluding managed natural landscapes with a management plan as approved by City Staff.
 - 1. Exemption. All ground cover vegetation located in the following areas are hereby exempt from height restrictions:
 - i. Shore impact zones;
 - ii. Bluff impact zones;

- iii. Areas within 50 feet of a wetland or natural drainage way;
 - iv. Areas of native plant communities with approved management plans;
 - v. Significant vegetative stands identified within City Code, relating to Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) Overlay District development standards;
 - vi. Any vegetation management within the MRCCA Overlay District shall comply with the requirements and standards of City Code and with any vegetation clearing permits approved by the City of Ramsey;
 - vii. Areas of steep slope where mowing is not safely possible;
 - viii. Any area that has been undisturbed by development, grading or building and remains in its original natural state.
2. All areas that have been graded or developed must maintain the property to turf grass standards unless a management plan for a managed natural landscape has been approved by the city or falls within the exemption list above. Rain gardens or pocket pollinator gardens not exceeding 100 square feet are also exempt from requiring a management plan.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 106

The following Section is hereby added to Chapter 106:

Sec. 106-371. – Managed Natural Landscapes

Managed natural landscapes have the following standards:

- (1) Managed natural landscapes within the MUSA shall maintain a setback of three (3) feet (enough for one pass with a lawn mower) from all property lines, roads, sidewalks, and trails, unless one of the following exemptions applies:
 - a. The managed natural landscape area abuts another similar private or public managed natural landscape area, a wetland, pond, lake, stream or river.
 - b. A fully opaque fence with a minimum height of at least four (4) feet either exists or is installed along the lot line adjoining the planned managed natural landscape area.
- (2) Outside of the MUSA, no setback shall be required.
- (3) Plant cover, with not more than 25% weeds, shall be established within three (3) years’ time.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance becomes effective upon publication, subject to City Charter Section 5.07.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Ramsey, Minnesota the ____ day of ____, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Introduction date:

Posting dates:

Adoption date:

Publication date:

Effective date: