

ARIZONA ORDINANCE RESEARCH - WEEDS

Community	Weed Height	Ordinance Text
Arizona Revised Statute	n/a	<p>Section 3-201(4):</p> <p>"Noxious weed" means any species of plant that is, or is liable to be, detrimental or destructive and difficult to control or eradicate and shall include any species that the director, after investigation and hearing, shall determine to be a noxious weed.</p>
Bullhead City	n/a	<p>Section 8.08.010:</p> <p>A. The purpose of this chapter is to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Bullhead City and to protect the community from deterioration and decline by establishing minimum standards for the use and maintenance of all buildings, structures, premises and vacant land.</p> <p>B. The acts, conditions, and omissions, and things in or upon any land or structure in the city, as described in this chapter constitute public nuisances, the existence of which are prohibited and declared to be unlawful.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 8.08.030:</p> <p>Z. "Weeds" means any vegetation, which is, or is liable to be, detrimental, destructive or unsightly and difficult to control or eradicate. Without limiting the foregoing, the term "weeds" include any and all weeds that have been determined to be a noxious weed in accordance with Arizona Revised Statute Section 3-2101 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 8.08.095:</p> <p>A. It shall be the responsibility of any person or responsible party to keep their real property free from visual blight caused by the presence of weeds that are unsightly and difficult to control or eradicate.</p> <p>B. It shall be the responsibility of any person or responsible party to keep their real property free from growth that may present a potential fire hazard as determined or defined by the Bullhead fire department.</p> <p>C. This section shall not apply to real property, which meets all of the criteria listed below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The parcel is undeveloped. 2. The parcel is maintained in its natural vegetative state. 3. The parcel is located more than thirty feet from any structure or development. <p>D. It is unlawful for any person or responsible party to fail to comply with the terms of this section.</p>
Chandler	6	<p>Section 30-2:</p> <p>In addition to those noxious weeds defined in A.R.S. § 3-201, weeds include, but are not limited to, bull thistle, cocklebur, foxtail, horseweed, lambs quarters, London rocket, mallow, milkweed, pigweed, mustards, prickly lettuce, ragweed, Russian thistle, tumbleweed, shepherds purse, sowthistle, white horsenettle, and willow weed, regardless of whether an owner or occupant regards the plant growth as desirable. In addition, any vegetation, in excess of six (6) inches, growing in an uncontrolled manner, which will, if not cut or destroyed, become a fire hazard or menace to adjacent property is for the purpose of this chapter a weed.</p> <hr/>

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		<p>Section 30-3.2(D):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All exterior property areas shall be kept free from dry vegetation, tumbleweeds, weeds, bushes and tall grass and trees which present a visual blight upon the area, which may harbor insect or rodent infestations, or dry vegetation which may likely become a fire hazard or result in a condition which may threaten the health and safety or the economic welfare of adjacent property owners or occupants. 2. The responsible person shall remove, restore or repair any landscaping, visible from public property, that is substantially dead, damaged, or characterized by uncontrolled growth, or presents a deteriorated appearance; including but not limited to uncultivated plants, weeds, tall grass, uncultivated shrubs or growth (whether growing or otherwise) higher than six (6) inches; or any dead trees, bushes, shrubs or portions thereof, stumps; or any palm or similar type tree having dead or dry fronds descending downward from the base of the lowest living frond more than eight (8) feet or dry fronds longer than five (5) feet and closer than eight (8) feet to the ground. 3. The responsible person must trim all overhanging vegetation to provide a thirteen-foot six-inch minimum height clearance in all streets and alleys, a seven-foot minimum height clearance on all sidewalks, and shall not allow vegetation to protrude more than one (1) foot six (6) inches into the alleyway. 4. The responsible person shall remove any material growing along a public or private right-of-way, access drive, fire lane or utility easement, which by reason of its size, manner of growth or location, constitutes an obstruction, impairs visibility or otherwise endangers any person, improvement or structure..
Flagstaff	6	<p>Section 13-18-009-0010</p> <p>"Noxious weeds" are specified by law or regulation to be particularly undesirable, destructive, and difficult to control.</p> <p>"Weeds" are plants that are competitive, persistent, and pernicious or interfere with human activities and as a result are undesirable.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 13-18-005-002</p> <p>A. Maintenance shall be performed on an ongoing basis as needed.</p> <p>B. Required maintenance includes irrigation, weeding, mowing, pruning, replacement of dead or diseased plants, cleaning, raking, snow removal, pest control, and otherwise caring for and repairing all the landscape materials, including sidewalks and street trees. Required maintenance also includes removal of wildfire fuels such as dead plants and limbs, thinning of tree and shrub densities, and weed control.</p> <p>E. Maintenance of plant materials, specifically including trimming and pruning, shall conform to applicable horticulture and arboriculture standards.</p> <p>F. General weeds shall not be permitted to exceed a height of six (6) inches.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noxious weeds shall be entirely removed. 2. Cut or otherwise removed weeds shall be collected and properly disposed of and shall not be left on the ground.

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Glendale	6	<p>Section 25.21(d): No owner or occupant of any property shall allow or permit any trees, shrubs, or other plant growth on the property to impede, obstruct or interfere with the free passage upon any public street, sidewalk, or alleyway; or obstruct the visibility of drivers; or interfere with any traffic control device; or signs or street lighting. Tree limbs must be maintained to hang no lower than twelve (12) feet above any public street or alleyway and seven (7) feet above any public sidewalk. Trees below seven (7) feet, shrubs or other plant growth must be maintained one (1) foot from any public sidewalk.</p> <p>Section 25.21(g): No person owning or occupying any property fronting on any street, alleyway, or public place in the city including the area between the property line of such property and the street shall allow thereon grass or weeds to exceed a height over six (6) inches when such conditions create a blighting condition or may harbor infestations or are likely to become a hazard to the public health or safety.</p> <p>Section 25.21(h): No person owning any vacant building or vacant property within the city shall allow thereon grass or weeds to exceed a height over six (6) inches or allow the accumulation of discarded construction materials, construction waste, trash or any other debris when such conditions create a blighting condition, or may harbor infestations or are likely to become a hazard to the public health or safety.</p> <p>Section 25.21(k): No person shall allow any palm tree to have an excessive accumulation of dead or dry fronds that descend downward from the base of the lowest living frond more than four (4) feet or dry fronds longer than four (4) feet and closer than seven (7) feet to the ground that may result in insect or other infestations or result in other conditions that adversely affect the public health or safety.</p>
Globe	10	<p>Section 10-4-1(M): Litter: Means any rubbish, trash, weeds, filth and debris which shall constitute a hazard to public health and safety, and shall include all putrescible and nonputrescible solid wastes including garbage, trash, ashes, street cleaning, dead animals, abandoned or junk vehicles or appliances, and industrial waste; any deposit, accumulation, pile, or heap of brush, grass, debris, weeds, cans, cloth, paper, wood, rubbish or other unsightly or unsanitary matter of any kind whatsoever. The term “litter” shall also include any growth of weeds, brush, grass, or other vegetable growth of a height and condition which causes a high risk of fire or a breeding place for rodents or other unhealthy or unsanitary animals.</p>

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		<p>Section 10-4-1(DD): Weeds or Grass: Johnson grass, Bermuda grass, Rye grass, White horse nettle, any type of plant growth defined as a noxious weed by State law regardless of whether a particular property owner or occupant who is the subject of enforcement action under this Code regards the growth as desirable, and any other similar species or subspecies of weeds or grass of any kind.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 10-4-8(A)(3): All persons owning or occupying land or places of business within the City shall keep the sidewalk or public places fronting or bordering their property free of garbage, junk, obstructions, and weeds or grass in excess of ten (10) inches, provided, however, this Section shall not prohibit the temporary storage of such matters in authorized receptacles for collection consistent with this Chapter.</p>
Holbrook	6	<p>Section 3-1-2 VEGETATION: Any plant growth, whether living or dead, including, but not limited to, grass, weeds, bushes, cactus and trees.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 3-1-7 4. Weeds, bushes, trees and other vegetation. A. All exterior property areas shall be kept free from dry vegetation, tumbleweeds, weeds, bushes and tall grass and trees which present a visual blight upon the area, which may harbor insect or rodent infestations, or dry vegetation which may likely become a fire hazard or result in a condition which may threaten the health and safety or the economic welfare of adjacent property owners or occupants. B. The owner shall remove, restore or repair any landscaping, visible from public property, that is substantially dead, damaged, or characterized by uncontrolled growth, or presents a deteriorated appearance; including but not limited to uncultivated plants, weeds, tall grass, uncultivated shrubs or growth (whether growing or otherwise) higher than six (6) inches; or any dead trees, bushes, shrubs or portions thereof, or stumps. C. The owner must trim all overhanging vegetation to provide a thirteen (13) foot six (6) inch minimum height clearance in all streets and alleys, a seven (7) foot minimum height clearance on all sidewalks, and shall not allow vegetation to protrude more than one (1) foot six (6) inches into the alleyway.</p>
Mesa	9/12	<p>Section 8-6-2: WEEDS: Bull thistle, cocklebur, foxtail, horseweed, lambs quarters, London rocket, mallow, milkweed, pigweed, mustards, prickly lettuce, ragweed, Russian thistle, shepardspurse, sowthistle, white horsenettle, willow weed, and those types of plant growth defined as noxious weeds in A.R.S. §3-201 regardless of whether a particular property owner or occupant who is the subject of enforcement action under this Code regards the growth as desirable.</p> <hr/>

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		<p>Section 8-6-3(D), (E):</p> <p>The responsible party of any property shall not allow or permit trees, shrubs, or plants on land adjacent to sidewalks or public places fronting or bordering their property to grow in a manner that impedes, obstructs, or interferes with the passage on any street, sidewalk, alley or other passageway within the city or that limits the visibility of any traffic control device or signal. Vegetation must be trimmed a minimum of 8 feet over the sidewalk and 14 feet over the street or alley.</p> <p>The responsible party of any property within the city shall not allow plant material to remain on a property that is dead, diseased, dying or so dry as to be readily flammable or combustible that may constitute a fire hazard or other threat to the public health or safety.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 8-6-3(O):</p> <p>The responsible party of a parcel of land within the City shall not allow thereon weeds or grass which occupy more than 10 percent or 50 square feet, in total area of a developed parcel to attain a predominant height in excess of 9 inches, or more than 10 percent of the area of an undeveloped parcel to attain a predominant height in excess of 12 inches. . . .</p>
Miami	10/24	<p>Section 8.16.080:</p> <p>It is unlawful and a public nuisance for any owner, occupant or person in control of property to permit upon his property:</p> <p>A. The growth of poison oak, poison ivy, or any noxious or toxic weeds or uncultivated plants (whether growing or otherwise), weeds, tall grass, uncultivated shrubs or growth higher than 24 inches or which present a fire hazard; or</p> <p>B. Plants or other material, which are dead, dormant or so dry as to be readily flammable or combustible on such land that may constitute a fire hazard or other threat to the public health or safety.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 8.20.040:</p> <p>All person owning or occupying land or places of business shall keep the sidewalk or public places fronting or bordering their property free of garbage, junk, obstructions and weeds or grass in excess of ten (10) inches in height.</p>
Page	n/a	<p>Section 91.02:</p> <p>WEEDS. Any vegetation which is, or is likely to be, detrimental, destructive or unsightly and difficult to control or eradicate, including, but not limited to, bull thistle, cocklebur, foxtail, horseweed, lambsquarters, London rocket, mallow, milkweed, pigweed, mustards, prickly lettuce, ragweed, Russian thistle, goat heads, tumble weeds, sheperdspurse, sow thistle, White Horse-nettle, willow-weed and those types of plant growth defined as noxious weeds by A.R.S. § 3-201 regardless of whether a particular property owner or occupant who is the subject of enforcement action under this code regards the growth as desirable.</p> <hr/>

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		<p>Section 91.05(H), (I):</p> <p>No owner or occupant of land, whether improved or unimproved, shall allow trees, shrubs or plant growth on that land to encroach upon or impede, obstruct or interfere with passage on, any street, sidewalk, easement or alley within the city or to obstruct visibility of any traffic control device or signal, or dead, decayed, diseased or hazardous trees, weeds, hedges, and overgrown or uncultivated vegetation which is in a hazardous condition or which is likely to harbor rats, vermin or other pests. This section does not apply to properly maintained compost bins.</p> <p>No owner or occupant of land, whether improved or unimproved, except on land designated as parks/open space or future development, shall allow, maintain, or accumulate weeds, grass or other plant growth that are dead, dormant, sticker, or due to height or dryness, constitute a hazard as deemed by the Fire Marshal. When in the opinion of the Fire Marshal, the large size or terrain of property makes the cutting of all weeds or grasses impractical, the Fire Marshal, or designee, may, by written order, allow and limit the required cutting of weeds and grasses to a firebreak of not less than 15 feet in width cut around the complete perimeter of the property and around any structures existing upon the property, unless the Fire Marshal, or designee determines that a firebreak of a lesser width will provide adequate protection against fire spread at the particular location. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit plant or weed growth, with the exception of noxious weeds, utilized for grazing on land designated as residential estate.</p>
Phoenix	6	<p>Section 39-7:</p> <p><i>Weeds, bushes, trees and other vegetation.</i> All exterior property areas shall be kept free from dry vegetation, tumbleweeds, weeds, bushes and tall grass and trees which present a visual blight upon the area, which may harbor insect or rodent infestations and dry vegetation, or which may likely become a fire hazard or result in a condition which may threaten the health and safety or the economic welfare of adjacent property owners or occupants. The premises shall be free from visual blight; potential fire hazards; dead trees and branches; dead palm fronds within ten (10) feet of the ground, a structure, a fence or wall, or of any combustible other than the tree from which the fronds have grown; lawn grass higher than six (6) inches; tumbleweeds; or weeds higher than six (6) inches tall.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 39-9:</p> <p>A. Male mulberry trees (<i>Morus alba</i>) and olive trees (<i>Olea europea</i>) produce large amounts of allergenic, airborne pollens which are noxious and contribute to human disease and health problems.</p> <p>B. No male mulberry tree (<i>Morus alba</i>) or olive tree (<i>Olea europea</i>) shall be sold or planted in the City of Phoenix.</p> <p>C. The sale or planting of male mulberry trees (<i>Morus alba</i>) or olive trees (<i>Olea europea</i>) shall constitute a public nuisance.</p> <p>D. The prohibitions set forth in this section shall specifically exclude pollenless varieties of olive and male mulberry trees.</p> <hr/>

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Prescott	12	<p><i>Section 7-5-2</i></p> <p>WEEDS: A useless and troublesome plant generally accepted as having no value and frequently of uncontrolled growth.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Section 7-5-4(C)</i></p> <p>Weeds, Bushes, Trees and Other Vegetation: All exterior property areas shall be kept free from dry vegetation, tumbleweeds, weeds, bushes and tall grass and trees which present a visual blight upon the area, which may harbor insect or rodent infestations, or which is or may likely become a fire hazard or otherwise threaten the health and safety or the economic welfare of adjacent property owners or occupants. It is the responsibility of the owner or occupant to cut or remove grass and weeds in excess of twelve inches (12") high throughout the property, unless the Community Development Director, in consultation with the Prescott Fire Chief or his designee, determines that it is not practical to do so on some or all of the property.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Section 8-3-1(A)</i></p> <p>All persons owning or occupying any building, grounds or premises within the City are hereby required to remove therefrom all dirt, debris, rubbish, garbage, weeds and brush and said persons are also required to remove therefrom all dirt, debris, rubbish, garbage, weeds and brush and maintain all sidewalks, driveway culverts and street parkways adjacent to said building, grounds or premises.</p>
Scottsdale	6	<p><i>Sec. 18-2.</i></p> <p><i>Plant growth</i> means vegetation, whether living or dead, including, but not limited to, grass, flowers, weeds, vines, bushes, shrubs, cacti or trees.</p> <p><i>Weed</i> means any uncultivated plant growth, including, but not limited to, bull thistle, cocklebur, foxtail, horseweed, lambs quarters, London rocket, mallow, milkweed, pigweed, mustards, prickly lettuce, ragweed, Russian thistle, tumbleweed, shepherds purse, sowthistle, white horsenettle, willow weed, and plant growth defined as noxious weeds in state statutes regardless of whether an owner or occupant regards the plant growth as desirable.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Sec. 18-9.</i></p> <p>(a) The owner and/or occupant of land shall maintain the land free of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Blight, garbage, litter or debris; (2) Noxious exhalations and other airborne irritations, including, but not limited to, smoke, soot, dust, fumes or other gases, offensive odors, or other annoyances; (3) Plant growth, infestation and any other condition that encourages infestation or otherwise adversely affects the aesthetic or general welfare of individuals or the public. (4) Grass higher than six (6) inches, poison oak, poison ivy, and weeds; or plant growth that is dead, dry, uncultivated or overgrown.

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		(b) In addition to the requirements of subsection 18-9(a) above, the owner and/or occupant of land shall also maintain the following areas free of grass higher than six (6) inches, poison oak, poison ivy, weeds, blight, garbage, litter and debris: adjacent rights-of-way from the back of the curb or edge of paving in the street, through the owner's and/or occupant's land, to the centerline of any adjacent alley or right-of-way.
Tempe	12	<p>Section 21-1: <i>Landscaping</i> means the combination of elements such as trees, shrubs, ground covers, vines and other organic and inorganic material for the express purpose of creating an attractive and pleasing environment.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 21-3(b)(8): A nuisance includes...Any landscaping, visible from public property, that is substantially dead, damaged, or characterized by uncontrolled growth, or presents a deteriorated or slum-like appearance; uncultivated plants, weeds, tall grass, uncultivated shrubs or growth (whether growing or otherwise) higher than twelve (12) inches; or any dead trees, bushes, shrubs or portions thereof, including stumps; or any palm or similar type tree having dead or dry fronds descending downward from the base of the lowest living frond more than eight (8) feet or dry fronds longer than five (5) feet and closer than eight (8) feet to the ground.</p>
Tucson	6	<p>Section 16-3: Weeds includes but is not limited to untended or uncultivated plants, invasive plants, aggressively seeding plants, Russian thistle, ragweed, and plants generally accepted as having no value and frequently of uncontrolled growth.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 16-13(a): Accumulation of vegetation prohibited. Each owner, lessee, tenant, resident or occupant shall maintain a property so it is free of the accumulation or untended growth of vegetation. The accumulation or untended growth of vegetation means the presence of plants on property that create a fire, safety or health hazard, or that attract vermin either on the property, on neighboring properties, or on both, and includes but is not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Any lawn grass that exceeds six (6) inches in height. (2) All weeds that exceed six (6) inches in height. (3) Dead trees or dead shrubs. (4) Dead palm fronds within ten (10) feet of the ground, a structure, a fence or wall, or of any combustible other than the tree from which the fronds have grown; (5) Any tree, shrub, or other form of vegetation of any kind on the property or on the adjoining right-of-way, street, or alley that extends over or under the sidewalk space or roadway in a manner that may interfere with the reasonable use of the street, sidewalk, or alley for pedestrian or vehicular traffic of any kind or that may obstruct the view or light distribution of traffic-control devices or luminaries. Vegetation must be trimmed and maintained to provide an unobstructed pedestrian path a minimum of forty eight (48) inches in width and eighty (80) inches in height from grade.

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		<p><i>Section 16-13(d):</i></p> <p>Duty to remove weeds, debris and refuse from abutting sidewalks, streets and alleys upon notice. Upon receipt of notice served pursuant to section 16-45, the owner, lessee, tenant or occupant of any premises shall remove from the premises and the abutting portions of contiguous sidewalks, streets and alleys, all weeds, garbage, debris or other refuse which may endanger the health, safety or welfare of the persons in the vicinity of such premises. This duty extends to and includes any abutting sidewalk area and one-half (1/2) the width of abutting alleys, from the property line to the center line of the alley.</p> <hr/> <p><i>Section 16-14(b)(1):</i></p> <p>Duty to clean, secure and prohibit trespass. The owner or responsible party of a vacant building or structure shall remove any accumulation of weeds, combustible waste, or refuse from the interior of the building or structure and the surrounding yards; and shall secure all doors, windows, and other openings to prevent unauthorized entry. The owner or responsible party also shall post both the structure and the exterior premises with signs to provide conspicuous and reasonable notice prohibiting entry (i.e., "No Trespassing" signs).</p>