

## Frequently Asked Municipal Ordinance Questions

### PARKING

#### **Q. How long can I leave my vehicle in a municipal parking lot?**

**A.** Chapter 72.36 –It shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle for longer than 24 hours at any one time within any municipal parking lot now existing or hereafter created or any other parking area coming within the scope of this subchapter by appropriate action.

#### **Q. How long can I leave my vehicle parked in front of my property or on a street?**

**A.** Chapter 72.02 – No person shall use the street or the area between the sidewalk and the curb or roadway for storage purposes. Any vehicle parked in the area described in this paragraph for a period of longer than **48 hours** shall constitute the using of the street for storage purposes.

### ANIMALS

#### **Q. Can I allow my dog to be off-leash?**

**A.** Chapter 91.21 – It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep a dog or cat or other animal which runs at large in the city. Knowledge or acquiescence by the owner or keeper is not an element of the offense.

#### **Q. Can my dog create a nuisance by barking or howling?**

**A.** Chapter 91.07 – It shall be unlawful to own any animal, including a dog or cat, in a residentially-zoned district, which by frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person within the vicinity of such animal; or shall by the nature of their maintenance or by the numbers of the same shall create an offensive odor so as to be objectionable to surrounding residences.

## **SIDEWALKS**

### **Q. Am I responsible for the sidewalk adjacent to my property?**

**A.** Chapter 97.08 -Every owner or occupant of any house or other building and the owner, proprietor, lessee or person entitled to the possession of any vacant lot, and every person having the charge of any church, jail, public building or public hall in the city which shall front or adjoin upon any public street shall, during the winter season, and during the time snow shall continue on the ground, by 12:00 noon of each day clear the sidewalks in front of or adjoining such house or other building and in front of or adjoining such lot from snow and ice and keep such sidewalks conveniently free therefrom during the day; or shall, in case the snow and ice are so congealed that they cannot be removed without damage to the sidewalk surface, cause the snow and ice to be strewn with ashes or sand; and shall also at all times keep such sidewalks free from dirt, filth or other obstructions or encumbrances so as to allow citizens to use the sidewalks in a safe and commodious manner.

## **WEEDS/GRASS**

### **Q. Do I need to cut the weeds/grass on my property?**

**A.** Chapter 95.03 - A) *Permitting weeds upon premises deemed a nuisance.* It shall be unlawful for the owner of any lot, tract, parcel of land or premises to suffer or to permit weeds to grow on said premises and the permitting of weeds to be grown on any premises in the city, is hereby declared to be a nuisance and shall be punishable by fine as prescribed in § [10.99](#).

## **ABANDONED VEHICLES**

### **Q. Can I leave a vehicle on my property that does not operate?**

**A.** Chapter 91.01 - (A) The abandonment of a vehicle as described in division (B) of this section or in § [90.03](#), or any part thereof, on any highway in this city is unlawful. (B) The abandonment of a vehicle or any part thereof on private or public property, other than a highway, in view of the general public, anywhere in this city is unlawful except on property of the owner or bailee of the abandoned

vehicle. A vehicle or any part thereof so abandoned on private property shall be authorized for removal by the police department after a waiting period of seven days or more.

## **LITTER**

### **Q. When does the accumulation of litter on my property constitute a violation?**

**A.** Chapter 95.01 - (H) To keep or suffer to be kept upon any lot, land, building or premises in the city any manure, garbage, offal, filth, or refuse matter, which has a tendency to or does injure or affect the health or welfare of the inhabitants of the city.

## **DEER**

### **Q. Can I feed deer on my property?**

**A.** It is illegal to feed deer. Chapter 95.01 - (K) To knowingly, purposefully or intentionally disburse food on the ground, at any feeding station, in a feeding device, or in a container of any kind, or provide a salt or mineral lick, or by any other means provide food to deer on any public or private property. A person shall be deemed to have knowingly, purposely or intentionally fed deer, cause deer to be fed or provided food to deer, if the person places, or allows to be placed, wheat, pellets, livestock feed, corn in any form, fruit, vegetables, hay or alfalfa, human food scraps, any form of wildlife seed, birdseed or livestock feed, or any other edible matter that deer will consume on the ground or within the reach of deer. "Within the reach of deer" shall be defined as having been located less than five feet above the ground unless such items are screened or protected in a manner that prevents deer from feeding on them. This prohibition shall include allowing residue that deer will consume to remain underneath a birdfeeder. This prohibition shall not include live vegetation such as ornamental landscaping, flowers, trees, vines, vegetable gardens, edible matter located either in an enclosed building or stored in a securely sealed package, or unmodified commercially purchased bird feeders or their equivalent when placed out of the reach of the deer.