

**STANDISH TOWNSHIP
ARENAC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDINANCE NO. 26-01

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING NOXIOUS WEEDS

At a regular meeting of the Standish Township Board, Arenac County, Michigan, held at the Standish Township Hall, 4997 Arenac State Road, Standish, Michigan 48658 on January 13, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., Standish Township Board Member _____, moved to adopt the following Ordinance, which motion was seconded by Standish Township Board Member _____:

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STANDISH TOWNSHIP ORDAINS:

Section 1. Purpose. An ordinance for the purpose of furthering the control and eradication of noxious weeds on any lot, lots or any parcel of property within the township; to impose obligations upon the owner, agent or occupant of the lot, lots or any parcel of property, with respect to the control and eradication; to implement the enforcement of the obligations by lien on the lot, lots or any parcel of property involved and to provide penalties for the violation thereof.

Section 2. Short Title. This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the “Standish Township Weed Ordinance”.

Section 3. Definitions. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms shall apply unless the context otherwise requires:

- (A) **Noxious Weeds** shall include Canada thistle (*cirsium arvense*), dodders, (any species of *Cuscuta*), mustards (charlock, black mustard and Indian mustard, species of *Brassica* or *Sinapis*), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), bindweed (*convulvulus arvensis*), perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*), hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*), ragweed (*ambrosia elatior*) any poison ivy (*rhus toxicodendron*), poison sumac (*toxicodendron vermix*), oxeyes daisies, goldenrod or any other plant which is recognized as deleterious to health, safety or public welfare and recognized as common nuisance. Noxious weeds do not include milkweed or any species of the genus *asclepias*. The term noxious weeds shall also mean all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs; provided, however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.
- (B) **Commissioner of Noxious Weeds.** For the purposes of this Ordinance, the Township Supervisor, or his or her designee, and the Township Code Enforcement Officer shall be the Commissioner of Noxious Weeds.

Section 4. Application. This Ordinance shall apply to and cover noxious weeds, as in this Ordinance defined, found growing on any lot, lots or any parcel of property within the township.

Section 5. Noxious Weeds in Residential, Lakeshore, Local Services Commercial, and General Commercial Zoning Districts, and for lots that are two acres or less in size in Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation Zoning Districts. In Residential, Lakeshore, Local Services Commercial, General Commercial Zoning Districts, all premises and the exterior of developed property, or undeveloped property within 300 feet of developed property, and all lots that are two acres or less in size located in Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation Zoning Districts, shall be maintained free from noxious weed growth in excess of eight inches (8") in the Front Yard and Side Yard as those terms are defined by the Standish Township Zoning Ordinance, including Figure 11-6 thereof. Additionally, noxious weeds shall not exceed eight inches (8") in the Rear Yard, as defined by the Township Zoning Ordinance including Figure 11-6 thereof, for a minimum of fifty feet (50') or to the Rear Lot Line, whichever is less, measured from the rear of the dwelling or business structure toward the Rear Lot Line. The presence of noxious weeds upon the lot, lots or any parcel of property, is hereby deemed to be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare and shall constitute a public nuisance.

Section 6. Unlawful to Permit Noxious Weeds; Presence thereof a public nuisance in Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation over two acres. It shall be unlawful for the owner, agent or occupant of any lot, lots or parcel of property in the township zoned Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation over two acres in size, to cause, or permit to grow, on the lot, lots or any parcel of property, any noxious weeds with the exception of grasses, annual plants and vegetation, cultivated flowers and gardens. The presence of noxious weeds upon the lot, lots or any parcel of property, is hereby deemed to be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare and shall constitute a public nuisance. Nothing in this Ordinance shall apply to weeds in fields devoted to the growing of any small harvested cash crop or upon land without a premise that contains more than two acres of land.

Section 7. Failure or refusal of owner and the like to comply; Action by Township; Expenses charged to owner and the like; Collection; Form of Notice.

- (A) In the event the owner, agent or occupant of any lot, lots or any parcel of property to which this Ordinance applies, shall fail or refuse to comply with the provisions of Sections 5 and 6 herein, then after ten-days' notice to the person, firm or legal entity of the fact of a violation of Sections 5 and 6 herein, by certified mail, return receipt requested, in substantially the form set forth in this Ordinance, then the Commissioner of Noxious Weeds of the township may cause any officer, inspector, contractor, agent or employees of the township to enter upon the lot, lots or parcel of property, and cut and destroy any and all noxious weeds located thereon. In the discretion of the Commissioner of Noxious Weeds, or any officer, inspector or employees of the township, he or she may authorize the destruction of the noxious weeds by mechanical means, and all due care shall be taken to avoid unnecessary damage to any lot, lots or parcels of property. Refusal to accept delivery of any notice shall be deemed to be receipt of such notice. The owner, agent or occupant of the lot, lots or parcels of property, within the township shall be liable for all costs incurred by the township in connection with the cutting and destruction.
- (B) From the time of the commencement of the cutting and destruction of the noxious weeds, the township shall have a lien upon the lot, lots or parcels of property, and in the event the charges involved are not paid by the owner, agent or occupant of the lot, lots or parcels of property,

within thirty (30) days from the date of billing, the person by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, payment shall be deemed delinquent and the lien enforceable as a tax lien as is provided by law against the lot, lots, or parcels of property to be charged and collected as in the case of general property taxes against the lot, lots, or parcels of property in question. Refusal to accept delivery of any notice shall be deemed to be receipt of such notice.

- (C) The notice to be given to the owner, agent or occupant of any lot, lots or any parcel of property located within the township shall conform substantially to the following:

NOTICE

To the owner, agent or occupant of any lot, lots or any parcel of property in Standish Township covered by this Ordinance.

Notice is hereby given that you are in violation of the Standish Township Weed Ordinance, making it unlawful to cause, or permit, the growing of noxious weeds, as defined therein, on any lot, lots or any parcel of property located within Standish Township. You are particularly in violation of Sections 3 and (5 or 6, whichever is applicable), of the Ordinance which reads as follows:

Section 3. Definitions. NOXIOUS WEEDS shall include Canada thistle (*circium arvense*), dodders, (any species of *Cuscuta*), mustards (charlock, black mustard and Indian mustard, species of *Brassica* or *Sinapis*), wild carrot (*Daucus carata*), bindweed (*convolvulus arvenis*), perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*), hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*), ragweed (*ambrosia elatior*) any poison ivy (*rhus toxicodendron*), poison sumac (*toxicondendron vermix*), oxeyes daisies, goldenrod or any other plant which is recognized as deleterious to health, safety or public welfare and recognized as common nuisance. Noxious weeds do not include milkweed or any species of the genus *asclepias*. The term noxious weeds shall also mean all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs; provided, however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

Section 5. Noxious Weeds in Residential, Lakeshore, Local Services Commercial, and General Commercial Zoning Districts, and for lots that are two acres or less in size that are located in Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation Zoning Districts. In Residential, Lakeshore, Local Services Commercial, General Commercial Zoning Districts, all premises and the exterior of developed property, or undeveloped property within 300 feet of developed property, and all lots that are two acres or less in size that are located in Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation Zoning Districts, shall be maintained free

from noxious weed growth in excess of eight inches (8") in the Front Yard and Side Yard as those terms are defined by the Standish Township Zoning Ordinance, including Figure 11-6 thereof. Additionally, noxious weeds shall not exceed eight inches (8") in the Rear Yard, as defined by the Township Zoning Ordinance including Figure 11-6 thereof, for a minimum of fifty feet (50') or to the Rear Lot Line, whichever is less, measured from the rear of the dwelling or business structure toward the Rear Lot Line. The presence of noxious weeds upon the lot, lots or any parcel of property, is hereby deemed to be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare and shall constitute a public nuisance.

OR

Section 6. Unlawful to Permit Noxious Weeds; Presence thereof a public nuisance in Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation over two acres. It shall be unlawful for the owner, agent or occupant of any lot, lots or parcel of property in the township zoned Forest & Recreation and Agricultural Preservation over two acres in size, to cause, or permit to grow, on the lot, lots or any parcel of property, any noxious weeds with the exception of grasses, annual plants and vegetation, cultivated flowers and gardens. The presence of noxious weeds upon the lot, lots or any parcel of property, is hereby deemed to be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare and shall constitute a public nuisance. Nothing in this Ordinance shall apply to weeds in fields devoted to the growing of any small harvested cash crop or upon land without a premise that contains more than two acres of land.

- (D) Further, the township may, in lieu of the notice required herein, publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county during the month of March that weeds not cut by June 1 of that year will be cut by the township and the owner of the property charged with the cost under the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 8. Penalty.

- (A) Any person, firm or legal entity who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. Each day's failure of compliance with any provision of this Ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.
- (B) Legal proceedings to enjoin the violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance may be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction in the name of the township. The action shall be taken only as authorized by the Township Board. Further, a civil action may be brought, as authorized by the Township, to recover the costs incurred by the township in connection with the cutting and destruction of noxious weeds.

Section 9. Standish Township Weed Ordinance available for public inspection. A copy of the Standish Township Weed Ordinance is available for public inspection in the Township Clerk's office during normal business hours and operating days of Standish Township.

Section 10. Repeal. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, including, but not limited to, Section 2.34 of the Township Zoning Ordinance, are hereby repealed.

Section 11. Severability. That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 12. Affect on pending proceedings. That nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in Section 10 of this Ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this Ordinance.

Section 13. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication of a notice of adoption of this Ordinance.

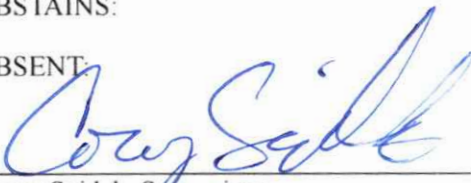
Motion by Cardinal and seconded by Jennings
to adopt Ordinance 26-01.

YEAS:

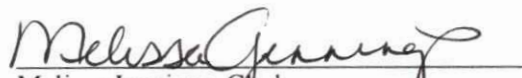
NAYS:

ABSTAINS:

ABSENT:



Corey Sajdak, Supervisor
Standish Township



Melissa Jennings, Clerk
Standish Township

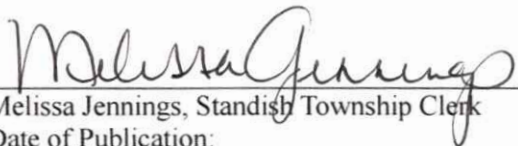
[THIS SPACE WAS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]
[CERTIFICATION APPEARS ON THE NEXT PAGE]

CERTIFICATION

State of Michigan)
) ss
County of Arenac)

I, the undersigned Township Clerk for Standish Township, Arenac County, Michigan, certify that the above Ordinance No. 26-01, adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Township on the January 13, 2026, was recorded in full in the Minutes of the Township Board of Trustees on said date. It was signed by the Supervisor and the Clerk of the Township.

Dated: 1/13/2026



Melissa Jennings, Standish Township Clerk
Date of Publication:
Newspaper: