

REPORTING A CODE VIOLATION

“Striving to provide a safe and healthy environment, of well maintained properties that will sustain property values and preserve West Bloomfield Township as a desired place to reside and conduct business”.

-wbtownship.org /Code Enforcement

This is historically the time of year when reports of Code Violations are at their highest. Residents often call members of the Board to complain about their neighbor’s high grass, visible garbage and trash, excessive dandelions, overgrown shrubbery, dead trees, and on-street parking. And this year, with the wet spring we’ve had, it seems the concerns are greater than normal.

We have repeatedly stated that your Board is committed to addressing these issues. However, our power is limited to ensuring compliance with the regulations and codes defined in the ***West Bloomfield Township Municipal Code***. We have, in the past, sent a courtesy letter to homeowners advising them of the complaint and asking for resolution by a specific date before a code violation report is filed. We have had great success with this initiative and we will continue to do so in most cases of flagrant violation.

However, we will no longer be sending letters about grass that has been allowed to get too long, or untrimmed shrubbery between neighbors. The exception would be if the home is vacant, or has been identified as a safety hazard to the residents of the subdivision. We have been, and will continue to, work jointly with Code Enforcement to correct and resolve those situations.

We urge you, as an individual homeowner, to take a more proactive role when you experience or observe issues with your neighbors property or behavior. Call them directly, and try to work it out with them. Perhaps they are injured or ill or elderly and in need of your guidance or assistance. If you are unable to come to a resolution by speaking to your neighbor, you are encouraged to file a Code Enforcement Violation with the Township. A direct link to the form is here, and it can be accessed on the Township website at www.wbtownship.org. Did you know that if an unmowed lawn exceeds 8” and the township is forced to cut it, the homeowner will be charged in excess of \$300, depending on condition of the property and the contractor utilized?

Every resident can, and should, be vigilant about code offenses they notice and report them to the Township. The process is simple, and the Code Enforcement officers are very responsive. It's important to understand however that the officers are not miracle workers, and they must follow a specific protocol. That process is also clearly detailed on the website.