

Subchapter 602. Noxious Weeds.

602.1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for the control of invasive terrestrial plant species (“noxious weeds”) considered to be deleterious within the township of Presque Isle.

602.2. AUTHORITY. The Town of Presque Isle has authority to enact this ordinance pursuant to s. 66.0517 and 66.0407(b), Wis. Stats.

602.3. LOCAL ORDINANCE. The Town of Presque Isle hereby establishes the Office of Weed Commissioner (WC) for the township, subject to annual appointment by the Town Chairman. The Town Board hereby directs the WC to focus on the eradication of garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), and bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*) through the powers and duties invested in the WC by this ordinance.

(1). Duties.

(a). The WC will notify property owners by registered letter if noxious weeds exist on their premises. The letter will describe the responsibilities of the property owner to rectify the noxious weed problem, including a date certain for eradication.

(b). After the date certain, the WC will verify eradication by visiting the site. If denied access by the landowner, the WC may obtain an inspection warrant from the Presque Isle Municipal Judge. The town constable shall

accompany the WC when executing the inspection warrant. If the weeds have not been eradicated, the weed commissioner shall destroy them, or have them destroyed, in the most economical manner.

(2). Powers

(a). The WC shall NOT have the power to enter private property without the landowner’s consent or a warrant from the municipal Judge, s. 66.0517(3)(a) Wis. Stats., notwithstanding.

(b). The WC shall NOT be liable to any action for trespass or damages, provided the duties are properly executed and reasonable care is exercised.

(3). Compensation. The WC shall receive compensation for time and expenses as determined by the Presque Isle Town Board; pursuant to s. 66.0517(3)(b) Wis. Stats.

602.4. VALIDITY. Should any section, clause or provision of this ordinance be declared invalid by the courts, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any other part thereof.

602.5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be effective after its passage and posting as required by law.

602.6. ASSESSMENTS. Landowners shall be liable for all costs associated with weed eradication as specified in s. 66.0517(3)(b) Wis. Stats.