

Ordinance 983

An Ordinance Allowing Front Yard Gardening and Permaculture

The Maplewood City Council approves the following changes to the Maplewood Code of Ordinances:

Section 1. This section amends the Maplewood Zoning Code to allow for front yard gardening and permaculture as a permitted use in all residential zoning districts.

Sec 44-6. – Definitions.

Home garden is a garden within a residential property.

Sec. 44-101. – Permitted uses.

The only uses permitted in the R-1 residence district are as follows:

1. One single-family dwelling and its accessory buildings and uses on each lot. ...
6. Home garden.

Section 44-103. – Prohibited uses.

The following uses are prohibited in the R-1 residence district:

2. Accessory buildings without an associated dwelling on the same premises, except for accessory buildings approved as part of a community or market garden.

Section 2. This section amends the rental housing maintenance code to add clarifying language that identifies that permaculture is allowed as a permitted use in all residential zoning districts.

Sec. 12-99. – Yards.

- (d) Removal of noxious weeds. The yard shall be free from noxious weeds and tall nonnative turf grass as required in section 18-31(8).
- (h) Yards and landscaped areas. The owner shall maintain all yards and landscaping and replace all damaged or dead plants required by the city. If a yard is landscaped with tall native grasses, a five (5) foot wide manicured buffer of mowed grass or other shorter plants will be required around the perimeter of the yard that is adjacent other properties with manicured lawns.

Section 3. This section amends the owner-occupied housing maintenance code to add clarifying language that identifies that permaculture is a permitted use in all residential zoning districts.

Sec. 12-147 – Exterior property areas.

- (b) Removal of noxious weeds and pests. All exterior property areas shall be kept free from noxious weeds and tall nonnative turf grass, rodents, vermin or other pests which are detrimental to the public health.

Section 4. This section amends the nuisance code to add clarifying language that identifies that permaculture is not a nuisance.

Sec. 18-31. – Nuisances affecting health, safety, comfort or repose.

The following are hereby declared to be public nuisances affecting health, safety, comfort or repose:

- (8) All noxious weeds. Noxious weeds shall be as defined by the state department of agriculture. Tall nonnative turf grasses and other rank growths that are adversely affecting the public health, safety, welfare, comfort or repose shall also be considered a public nuisance. Wetlands and public open space such as parks, nature center or county open space, are exempted from the tall nonnative turf grass part of this subsection. The noxious weed requirements shall apply.

The Maplewood City Council approved this ordinance June 11, 2018.