



CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SECRETARIAT SECTION

**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

2007 MAR -7 P 12:59

Request to designate 23 Doerr Road as a Natural Garden

Date:	March 6, 2007
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Bill Blakes, Manager, Municipal Licensing and Standards
Wards:	Ward 38-Bendale
Reference Number:	IBMS No. 06-149060

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to consider a request by the owner(s) of 23 Doerr Road to be exempted from Chapter 489 – Grass and Weeds, section 489-2. This section states that the maximum height of grass and weeds cannot exceed 20 centimetres. This report is to consider this exemption request in accordance with Chapter 489, Grass and Weeds, section 489-3(E)(6) and have their yards(s) designated a Natural Garden, as follows:

- (6) An owner or occupant requesting a review of a notice, and any other interested person, shall be heard by the community council which may recommend that Council:
 - (a) Grant the exemption, with or without conditions, and cancel the notice; or
 - (b) Confirm the notice and direct that a second notice be given under this section.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Parks, Forestry and Recreation-Natural Environments, states that this is a natural garden. Therefore Municipal Licensing and Standards recommends that the exemption be granted, subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The natural garden being limited to private property only; and
 - b. The natural garden be kept to a maximum of one meter in height within 2.4 metres of the front property line.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact anticipated in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

A Notice of Violation was issued to the owner(s) of 23 Doerr Road. The owner(s) requested by letter to Municipal Licensing and Standards for a natural garden exemption.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

A public complaint reported grass in excess of 20 centimetres. A Notice of Violation was issued. Public Health Department was advised concerning rats in the area but do not inspect on private residential land. Under the Toronto Municipal Code Property Standards Chapter 629-9 Municipal Licensing and Standards investigated the following addresses for rodents;

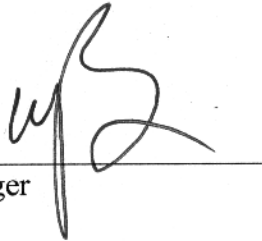
- 25 Doerr Road- owner contacted, 3 inspections no rodents,
- 21 Doerr Road- no contact with owner, 3 inspections no rodents
- 22 Hathway Drive-owner has seen rodents
- 26 Hathway Drive- owner has seen rodents and indicated they may come from a sewer at 28 Hathway Drive.(see photo)
- 28 Hathway Drive- private sewer grate in rear yard property line

Municipal Licensing and Standard during its inspections found no evidence of rodents.

CONTACT

Glenn Shimoda, Supervisor, Municipal Licensing and Standards, Scarborough District.
416-396-7371

SIGNATURE



Bill Bakes, Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Natural garden request letter dated June 29, 2006
2. Copy of letter dated August 11, 2006, Natural Environment & Horticulture, EDCT
3. Photo from 26 Hathway Dr,

June 29, 2006

Executive Director
Municipal Licensing + Standards
c/o Mr. James Stoeum
Scarborough Civic Centre
150 Borough Drive, 3rd Floor
Scarborough, ON M1P 4N7

Folder #: 06 150518 LGW 00 IV

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: 23 Doerr Rd
Legal Description PL 5681 LT 75
Roll Number 19010511 4001 1000000
City of Toronto

This letter is to formally request the above named property to be considered a natural garden and therefore exempt from Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 489 Section 2(A) - the grass and/or weeds are in excess of 20 centimetres (8 inches in height)

It would be greatly appreciated if a Municipal Standards Officer who is knowledgeable in naturalized gardens visit our property and inspect it so that we can conform to the Naturalized Yard standards.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

PIO →

Glenn Shimoda - Fwd: Natural Gardens 23 Doerr Rd. & 26 Shawford Cr.

From: Patricia Landry
To: Shimoda, Glenn
Date: 08/11/2006 11:19 AM
Subject: Fwd: Natural Gardens 23 Doerr Rd. & 26 Shawford Cr.

Glenn,
Is this sufficient or would you like a formal report?
Patricia

>>> Patricia Landry 7/21/2006 3:54 PM >>>
Hello James,

I inspected the above-mentioned properties this afternoon and found both of them to be within the provisions of a natural garden. I met with the homeowner on Shawford, but the other homeowner was not there. I have left my card to arrange a site meeting with the homeowner on Doerr. The garden on Doerr had some weeds, but very minimal. I will speak to the homeowner directly when we meet to address these weeds.

Have a good weekend,

Patricia