



Memorandum

Parks, Forestry & Recreation  
Jim Hart, General Manager

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Garth Armour  
Coordinator  
Natural Environment  
Parks, Forestry & Recreation

**DATE:** 18 November, 2011  
**TO:** Joe Magalhaes  
UDS - Municipal Licensing and Standards  
**FROM:** Garth Armour, Coordinator – Natural Environment  
Parks, Forestry and Recreation  
**RE:** **Natural Gardens Inspection**  
**Location:** 137 Lindsey Ave.

The above noted - property was inspected by Patricia Landry of my section for potential natural garden status which is covered by Chapter 489 of the Municipal Code:

**Grass & Weeds – Article 2 A. – Height Restriction, which states: “The owner or occupant of private land shall cut the grass and weeds on their land and remove the cuttings whenever the growth of grass and weeds exceeds 20 centimetres in height.”**

The ‘natural garden’ exemption ( **Article 2 B.**) reads as follows:

**For the purposes of this section, the term “grass and weeds” shall refer to:**

- 1. All noxious weeds and local weeds designated under the *Weed Control Act*; and**
- 2. Any other vegetation growth which does not form part of a natural garden that has been deliberately implemented to produce ground cover, including one or more species of wildflowers, shrubs, perennials, grasses, or combinations of them, whether native or non-native, consistent with a managed and natural landscape, other than regularly mown grass.**

Our findings are as follows:

We found this property to be within the provisions of the natural garden exemption. . To be in compliance with the natural garden exemption, a garden must be consistent with a **“managed and natural landscape”**.

**Findings:**

1. A mix of shrubs and herbaceous perennials. There were some small Norway maple seedlings that I recommended removing as they would eventually compete with other plant material. On re-inspection, I found the homeowner had removed the seedlings and some other small weeds.

Maintenance required to continue to meet the provisions of a natural garden:

1. On-going weed removal and proper pruning of plant material when required is recommended in order to continue to be in compliance with the natural garden exemption.

Garth Armour  
Coordinator, Natural Environment  
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