



# MISSISSAUGA

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

## **Turfgrass and Prohibited Plant Species By-law 0050-2026**

WHEREAS Sections 8, 9 and 11 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, ("*Municipal Act, 2001*") authorize The Corporation of the City of Mississauga (the "City") to pass by-laws necessary or desirable for municipal purposes, and in particular paragraph 6 of subsection 11(2) authorizes by-laws respecting the health, safety and well-being of persons;

AND WHEREAS Section 127(a) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* enables a municipality to pass bylaws requiring the owner of lands to clean and clear the land and Section 127(b) enables a municipality to regulate when and how matters required under Section 127(a) shall be done;

AND WHEREAS turfgrass and prohibited plant species may result in health problems for individuals and can have an impact on the health, safety and well-being of the inhabitants of the City;

AND WHEREAS subsection 429(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may establish a system of fines for a by-law passed under this Act;

AND WHEREAS Section 436 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass by-laws providing that the municipality may enter on land at any reasonable time for the purpose of carrying out an inspection to determine compliance with a by-law or an order made pursuant to the by-law;

AND WHEREAS Sections 444 and 445 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, provide that a municipality may make an order requiring the person who contravened the by-law or who caused or permitted the contravention or the owner or occupier of the land on which the contravention occurred to discontinue the contravening activity and/or to do work to correct the contravention;

AND WHEREAS Section 446 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may proceed to do things at a person's expense which that person is otherwise required to do under a by-law but has failed to do and the costs incurred by a municipality may be recovered by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes;

AND WHEREAS on April 15, 2026, the Council for The Corporation of the City of Mississauga passed Resolution 0080-2026 approving General Committee Recommendation GC-0185-2026 to enact a new Turfgrass and Prohibited Plant Species By-law to prescribe

standards for the maintenance of turfgrass and prohibit specific plant species, and to repeal Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017, as amended;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga ENACTS as follows:

## **DEFINITIONS**

1. In this By-law:

“**Boulevard**” means the part of a Street that is not used, or intended to be used, for vehicle travel by the general public, and is situated between the travelled portion of the road and the adjoining property line;

“**City**” means The Corporation of the City of Mississauga or the geographic area of the City of Mississauga, as the context requires;

“**Commissioner**” means the Commissioner appointed by Council with administrative responsibility for the City’s Enforcement Division and includes their designate; “**Council**” means the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga;

“**Keep Land free of**” or “**Keep the Boulevard free of**” includes to pull or remove the plants, cutting the plants at their roots or stalks before the plant seeds have developed sufficiently to ripen after cutting, or plowing or cultivating the soil in which the plants are growing;

“**Land**” includes any private property, premises, grounds, yards or vacant lot;

“**Officer**” means a municipal by-law enforcement officer employed by the City and/or appointed by Council to perform the duties of enforcing the City’s by-laws, and also includes a police officer employed by the Peel Regional Police or the Ontario Provincial Police;

“**Owner**” includes the registered owner, occupant, tenant, person in charge of the Land, or the person for the time being managing or receiving the rent of the Land whether on their own account or on the account of an agent or trustee of any other person or any of the aforesaid;

“**Prohibited Plant Species**” means any prohibited plant species as set out in Schedule A attached hereto;

“**Street**” means a highway as defined in the *Municipal Act, 2001*; and

“**Turfgrass**” means ground cover of various perennial grasses grown for lawns, of a type that forms a dense, uniform turf when mown.

## **SCOPE**

2. This By-law shall apply to all Land in the City, save and except for any Land owned by:

- (a) The City (not including City owned Boulevards);
- (b) The Regional Municipality of Peel;
- (c) any school board; and
- (d) any other government authority or utility corporation.

### **ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

- 3. The Commissioner is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this By-law, and may appoint delegates or assign duties to City staff under this By-law.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- 4. Every Owner of Land shall cut and maintain Turfgrass to a height not exceeding 20 centimetres.
- 5. Every Owner of Land shall Keep Land free of all Prohibited Plant Species.
- 6. Every Owner of Land shall maintain Turfgrass on the Boulevard to a height not exceeding 20 centimetres.
- 7. Every Owner of Land shall Keep the Boulevard free of all Prohibited Plant Species at their expense.

### **MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 8. The responsibility of the Owner of Land to maintain the Boulevard as described in Section 7 of this By-law does not apply to:
  - (a) medians and traffic islands located in Streets;
  - (b) Street trees, hedges, shrubs and maintained gardens planted by the City;
  - (c) Boulevards owned and maintained by the City; and
  - (d) where, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the Owner of the adjoining Land cannot maintain the Boulevard due to steep grades, walls, fences, or other constraints.

### **USING BOULEVARDS FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES**

- 9. Nothing in this By-law shall prevent the Commissioner from altering, opening or otherwise using any Boulevard for municipal purposes.

### **INSPECTIONS**

- 10. An Officer may enter upon Land at any reasonable time in accordance with the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, for the purpose of carrying out an inspection to

determine whether or not this By-law or any orders issued pursuant to this By-law are being complied with.

11. For the purposes of conducting an inspection pursuant to this By-law, an Officer may:
  - (a) require the production for inspection of documents or things relevant to the inspection;
  - (b) inspect and remove documents or things relevant to the inspection for the purpose of making copies or extracts;
  - (c) require information from any person concerning a matter related to the inspection; and
  - (d) alone, or in conjunction with a person possessing special or expert knowledge, make examinations or take tests, samples or photographs necessary for the purposes of the inspection.
12. A receipt shall be provided for any document or thing removed under subsection 11(b) and the document or thing shall be promptly returned after the copies or extracts are made.
13. No person shall prevent, hinder, or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, an Officer who is lawfully exercising a power or performing a duty under this By-law.

#### **ORDERS AND REMEDIATION**

14. An Officer may make an order requiring the person who contravened this By-law or who caused or permitted the contravention or the Owner of Land on which the contravention occurred to discontinue the contravening activity or to do work to correct the contravention.
15. An order made pursuant to Section 14 shall include:
  - (a) the reasonable particulars of the contravention adequate to identify the contravention and the location of the Land on which the contravention occurred; and
  - (b) the date by which there must be compliance with the order or the work to be done and the date by which the work must be done.
16. No person shall fail to comply with an order made pursuant to Section 14.
17. Any order required to be given to or served upon a person pursuant to this By-law may be served:
  - (a) personally;
  - (b) by email to the last known email address on record; or

- (c) by registered mail to the last known mailing address on record, which service shall be deemed to be five (5) days after mailing.
18. If the City is unable to effect service under Section 17 or the delay necessary to serve an order would result in an immediate danger to the health or safety of any person, the order may be placed in a conspicuous place upon the property and shall be deemed to be sufficiently given to or served upon the person to whom the order is directed.
19. Where a matter or thing that is required to be done through an order of an Officer pursuant to subsection 15(b) of this By-law is not completed by the time set out in the order, the matter or thing may be done by the City at the person's expense and the City may recover the costs of doing the matter or thing from the person directed or required to do it by action or by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes.

### **PENALTY**

20. Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence and is liable upon conviction, to a fine and such other penalties, as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33, as may be amended from time to time.

### **VALIDITY**

21. If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provisions or part of a provision of this By-law to be invalid or to be of no force and effect, it is the intention of Council in enacting this By-law that the remainder of this By-law shall continue in force and be applied and enforced in accordance with its terms to the fullest extent possible according to law.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL**

22. This By-law shall come into force and effect on the date that it is enacted.
23. By-law 0125-2017, as amended, is hereby repealed.

### **SHORT TITLE**

24. This By-law may be referred to as the "Turfgrass and Prohibited Plant Species By-law".

ENACTED and PASSED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

Signed by Carolyn Parrish, Mayor and Diana Rusnov, City Clerk.

**Schedule A**  
**Prohibited Plant Species**

1. Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
2. Poison Ivy (*Rhus radicans* L. or *Toxicodendron radicans*)
3. Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum* L.)
4. Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*)
5. Poison Sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix* (L.) Kuntze)