

## **ORDINANCE NUMBER 314**

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER 305 IN ITS ENTIRETY  
AND REPLACING IT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1.

a. Subject to the exceptions herein, no person owning or occupying any real estate within Conewago Township shall permit the growth of any grass, weeds or similar vegetation exceeding a height of eight (8) inches within three hundred (300) feet of any developed parcel or tract of land unless such premises is physically separated by a stream, wooded area, hedge row or similar type separation.

b. Within a residential development, no owner of a vacant building lot, whether or not the owner is the developer, declarant, builder or homeowner, shall permit grass, weeds or similar vegetation to grow to a height in excess of eight (8) inches, regardless of the distance from developed parcels or tracts of land.

Section 2. The following types of areas are exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance.

- a. All areas containing crops planted for some useful purpose, including hay.
- b. All wooded areas.
- c. All erosion control areas as defined by the township.
- d. All areas planted with vegetation designed to prevent erosion.
- e. All cultivated fields and similar areas used for agricultural purposes.
- f. All areas adjacent to streams (within 20 feet)
- g. All mature hedge rows.
- h. All areas containing wildflowers and other ornamental plantings.
- i. All areas determined to be wetlands.
- j. All storm water management areas maintained as natural areas.
- k. All areas of a farm parcel other than the cartilage.

Section 3. Notice of Violation: Conewago Township or its agent is hereby authorized to give notice of the violation of the terms of this ordinance, by personal service or by United States mail, to the owner of the tract or parcel of land whereon the violation occurs. The notice to the owner of the property shall direct the owner to remove, trim or cut the grass, weeds or vegetation so as to conform to the requirements of this ordinance. The notice shall require the owner to comply with the provisions of this ordinance within five (5) days of the date of the notice.

In the event that any person shall neglect, fail or refuse to comply with such notice within the time provided in the notice or shall thereafter permit any further violation of this ordinance the township may remove, trim or cut the grass, weeds, or vegetation, and the cost thereof, together with any additional penalty authorized by the laws, may be collected by the Township from such person, firm or corporation by the filing of a lien or by an action for assumpsit or in any other manner as may be provided by law for the enforcement and collection of municipal claims. It is the intent of this section that only one notice of violation need be given to any person during the same growing season and that no additional notices shall be required before penalties or violation of the provisions of this chapter may be imposed.

Section 4. Violations and penalties: Any person, firm or corporation who or which shall violate or fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any of the provisions of the ordinance, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a criminal fine not to exceed \$1,000 per violation plus costs, to a term of imprisonment to the extent allowed by law for the punishment of summary offenses, or to a term of imprisonment for the failure to pay a fine pursuant to the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure. Each day that a violation shall constitute a separate offense and notice to the offender shall not be necessary in order to constitute an offense.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 7<sup>th</sup>. day of July, 2008.

CONEWAGO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

/s/ Lois Leonard

/s/ Robert Hahn

Attest: /s/ Lou Anne Bostic, Secretary