

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 305

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE DISPOSAL OF GRASS CLIPPINGS AND YARD WASTE ON THE ROADS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP; SETTING PROCEDURES FOR REDUCTION IN WASTE AND REMEDIATION; PROVIDING FOR LIABILITY OF HOMEOWNERS; AND SETTING PENALTIES.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors, Washington Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. PREAMBLE

Washington Township makes the following findings:

1. The deposit and accumulation of grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste upon and into the roads of the Township have created a public problem by increasing the amount of waste and debris in the streets creating a safety hazard, making the Township less visually attractive, and increasing pollution and run-off into the Township storm sewers; and
2. A significant portion of the run-off and debris in the roads results from persons intentionally dumping or placing grass clippings, leaves and yard waste on the Township roads; and
3. The current ordinances and procedures have failed to abate the dumping of waste in the roads; and
4. That a new ordinance is required to remediate the problems identified herein.

SECTION 2. OFFENSE DEFINED

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly cause grass clippings, leaves, or other debris or waste produced in conjunction with yard maintenance or gardening to be deposited into the sidewalks, streets, alleys, and public roads of Washington Township. A property owner is responsible to ensure that any persons who cut their grass or maintain their yard abide by this ordinance. Any grass, leaves or other debris or waste which inadvertently is deposited onto the streets, alleys or roads of the Township shall be removed within one (1) hour.

SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT

- A. This ordinance may be enforced by the Police Department or Code Enforcement Officer.
- B. There shall be a presumption that grass clippings, leaves or yard waste immediately adjacent to a property were caused to be placed there by the property owner. This is a rebuttable presumption.

SECTION 5. PENALTY

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$20.00 nor more than \$600.00 plus costs and in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY


Should any portion of this Ordinance be determined to be unlawful or unconstitutional, then the remainder of the Ordinance shall be not affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

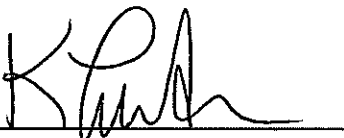
ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Washington, County of Northampton, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, into an Ordinance this 13th day of September 2023.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By: 
Robert Smith, Chairman

By: 
Carl Tolino, Vice Chairman

By: 
Justin Huratiak

By: 
Kathleen Purdue, Secretary