

# Be Informed

This brochure has been developed to explain some of St. Petersburg's housing and neighborhood standards. Our first priority is to help residents voluntarily comply with these standards. If you receive a violation notice, we recommend that you take positive action to resolve any violations. Also contact your Codes Investigator with any questions about violations and what must be done to correct them. The following additional brochures are available:



- Address Numbers
- Certificate of Inspection Program
- Commercial Equipment Parking
- Illegal or Abandoned Dwelling Units
- Junk, Rubbish, Outdoor Storage
- Legal Premises Agent for Out of Town Owners
- Inoperative Motor Vehicles
- Painting to Protect Your Home
- Parking in Residential Areas
- Rodent and Insect Control
- Maintenance of Buildings
- Visibility Triangle Requirements



**Codes Compliance Assistance**  
**Municipal Services Center Building—1st**  
**Floor**  
**One 4th Street North**

Phone: 727-893-7373

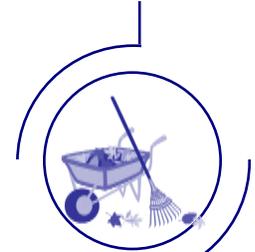
Fax: 727-893-5558

Visit us on the Web at [www.stpete.org/codes.htm](http://www.stpete.org/codes.htm)

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## Yard Maintenance Standards

**Codes**  
**Compliance Assistance**  
A Neighborhood Service



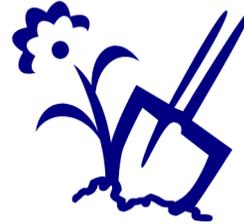
# Yard Maintenance Standards

Private property owners are responsible for routine maintenance of plant material on their property and in abutting right-of-way areas. Yard maintenance standards were adopted in the City Code:



- for public safety purposes
- to maintain visibility along streets and intersections
- to improve the general appearance of the City's neighborhoods,
- to protect the environment
- to preserve sewer and other utility systems.

- Edge or remove growth from driveways, sidewalks, curb lines, and gutters.
- Trim hedge heights to 5 feet or less in front yards on residential property (hedges on private property are only regulated within 5 feet of the property line.)



Contact the department for more details on hedge regulations in side yards, rear yards, non-residential property or waterfront property.

- Shrubs and trees over the public sidewalks must be trimmed up to a height of eight feet to allow motorists to see past them and to allow pedestrians to walk under them.

- Remove vegetation which is a hazard to public safety, such as vegetation with thorns, from the right-of-way area.

- Trim trees over the street or alley to a height of fourteen feet above the street or alley surface.

- Provide vegetative ground cover, such as grass, for all



## Requirements

Home owners can use this checklist to perform yard maintenance that will comply with the City Code:

- Mow the lawn so that grass is ten (10) inches or less in overall height and maintain ground cover plants at an overall height of twenty-four (24) inches or less.



exposed sand or soil areas. Grass helps hold soil in place that might otherwise wash away. This erosion harms the property and can block City storm water sewers.

- Take grass clippings, tree trimmings and other vegetative material to the City brush sites. Disposing of such material on streets, right-of-ways, waterways, other people's property, or in the City storm water system is prohibited. The use of mulching lawn equipment is encouraged

- If a tree must be removed, please consult the City's Urban Forester at (727) 893-4249 to see if a permit is required.