

# RICHMOND NEW LAWN MAINTENANCE LAW

In helping to keep our city beautiful, Richmond residents created laws requiring property owners to keep grass, weeds, and similar vegetation under a height of 12 inches; prevent shrubs or trees from blocking sidewalks, streets, alleys, or public right-of-ways; and, clean up fallen trees and branches.

To help increase our vigilance and beautification efforts, these laws were updated this year by Richmond City Council Ordinance # 2015-191. Some highlights include:

- **First Violation = \$200 Charge + Clean Up Costs**

Mandatory \$50 civil penalty. Additional \$150 Administrative Fee plus Clean Up Costs apply if violation is not abated by property owner within 48 hours and then cleaned up by City.

- **NO Notice Given on Future Violations During Growing Season**

After first violation you are automatically charged for each new violation during that year's growing season, which runs March 1 to November 30.

- **Each Future Violation = \$350 Charge + Clean Up Costs**

Mandatory \$200 civil penalty. Additional \$150 Administrative Fee plus Clean Up Costs apply if violation is not abated by property owner within 48 hours and then cleaned up by City.

- **Clean Up Costs for Each Violation are Based on Property Size**

City uses lawn and garden contractors for clean up.

- **Three Violations = Class 3 Misdemeanor = Fine up to \$500**

Three violations within 24 months is a Class 3 Misdemeanor, which is punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

**R** **REPORT** a violation by calling 311.

**i** **INFO:** For more information, please call the Richmond Department of Planning and Development Review Division of Code Enforcement, at 804.646.6398.

Richmond, Virginia U. S. A.

# Begins March 1, 2016