

WEED ORDINANCE

COLDWATER TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 84-1

Adopted:
Effective:

An Ordinance to secure the public health, safety and welfare of the residents and property owners of the Township of Coldwater, Branch County, Michigan, by the control and regulation of certain weeds and growth in subdivided lands and along improved streets within the Township; to provide penalties for the violation thereof and to repeal all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith.

THE TOWNSHIP OF COLDWATER
BRANCH COUNTY, MICHIGAN
ORDAINS:

SECTION I. TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the Coldwater Township Weed Ordinance.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this Ordinance, "weeds" shall include Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), dodders (any species of *Cuscuta*), mustards (sharlock, black mustard and Indian mustard, species of *Brassica* or *Sinapis*), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*), hoary alyssum (*Berterea incana*), ragweed (*Ambrosia elatior*) and poison ivy (*Rhus toxicodendron*), and poison sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix*).

SECTION III. REGULATIONS

(A). It shall be the duty of all owners of land upon which weeds, as defined in this Ordinance, are growing, either (1) within platted subdivisions in which buildings have been erected upon 60% or more of the lots thereof, or (2) on parcels of land along improved streets in common usage within the Township, to a depth of 165 feet or the depth of the ownership, whichever is the lesser, to destroy said weeds before

they reach a seed-bearing stage, and to prevent said weeds from perpetuating themselves and from becoming a detriment to public health.

(B). Nothing in this Ordinance shall apply to weeds in fields devoted to growing any small grain crops such as wheat, oats, barley, or rye.

SECTION IV. PENALTIES.

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be given one week to destroy said weeds. Any person, firm or corporation who does not destroy said weeds within week after notification of a violation shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$100.00, which fine, when collected, shall be paid to the Supervisor of Coldwater Township and shall become a part of the "Noxious Weed Control Fund" of the Township of Coldwater. Each week, following the first week after notification, that a violation shall continue to exist shall constitute a separate offense. The foregoing penalty shall be in addition to the other rights of the Township to proceed at law or equity with other appropriate and proper remedies.

SECTION V. VALIDITY.

Should any section, clause or provision of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

SECTION VI. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect on the fifteenth (15th) day of June, 1984. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Garreth L. Barker
Township Clerk