

# TOWNSHIP OF MOORE

## BLIGHT ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. ~~99-1~~ 99-1

An ordinance to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by eliminating blight within Moore Township; to define and prohibit blight; and to provide penalties for violation hereof.

THE TOWNSHIP OF MOORE ORDAINS:

### ARTICLE I

#### Blight Defined and Prohibited

Section 1.1. It is hereby determined that the uses of land described in this Article constitute blight which, if allowed to exist, will result in unsafe, unsanitary and undesirable neighborhoods.

Section 1.2. No person shall maintain or permit to be maintained any of the following types of blight upon any premises owned, rented, or occupied by such person:

- (a) The outdoor storage of any junk motor vehicle. The term "junk motor vehicle" shall include any motor vehicle which is not currently licensed, which has been inoperable for any reason for a period in excess of fifteen (15) days, and which is stored outside of an enclosed building.
- (b) The storage or accumulation of garbage of any kind, except domestic refuse originating on the premises and stored in a sanitary manner for a period not to exceed fourteen (14) days. The term "garbage" shall include food waste matter and discarded food containers, as well as any other household refuse. Dumpsters and other large garbage containers shall not be stored within twenty-five (25) feet of any property line. All such dumpsters and containers shall be kept covered and shall be screened from view.
- (c) The outdoor storage or accumulation of junk. Any junk which is not located within a completely enclosed building shall be deemed to be stored outdoors in violation of this subsection. The term "junk" shall include machinery parts, motor vehicle parts, tin cans, unused appliances, metal remnants, building debris, or any other cast off material or other material which is not usable for the purposes for which it was manufactured. This subsection shall not apply to farm machinery which is stored on an operating farm and

which is being kept for farming purposes. A farm shall be deemed to be a parcel of land containing at least 40 acres, of which at least one-half is annually harvested.

- (d) The existence of grass, weeds, brush or undergrowth over eight (8") inches in height within 165 feet of any public road right-of-way, after having received a written notice from the Township, delivered personally or by U.S. mail, giving ten (10) days from the date of the notice to mow the property. If the person who receives such notice fails to mow within the ten (10) day period, the Township may authorize a contractor to enter upon the property and to do the necessary cutting. All expenses incurred in connection with such work shall be paid by the owner of the property. This subsection shall only apply to property zoned C-Commercial, I-Industrial, or R-Higher Density Residential.

## ARTICLE II Penalties and Enforcement

Section 2.1. Any person, firm or corporation who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance is responsible for a municipal civil infraction, subject to payment of a civil fine of not less than \$50.00, plus costs and other sanctions, for each infraction. Repeat offenses under this ordinance shall be subject to increased fines as provided for in the Civil Infraction Ordinance, Ordinance number 97-1.

Section 2.2. If a property owner fails to eliminate blight after notification to eliminate such blight has been sent to the address shown on the Township tax roll, a designated agent of the Township may enter the property and eliminate the blight. The cost of such blight elimination shall be assessed against the property on the next tax roll.

## ARTICLE III Repeal

Section 3.1. The former Moore Township ordinance to define and control blight and nuisance, being Ordinance No. 81-N, is hereby repealed.

## ARTICLE IV Enactment and Effective Date

Section 4.1. This Ordinance was adopted by the Moore Township Board at a meeting duly held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 1998.