

# Village of Westmont

## Environmental Improvement Committee

### 2022 No Mow 'til Mother's Day Program

#### Information & Fact Sheet - Published March 21, 2022



#### **SIGN PLACEMENT**

##### **Where do I place the No Mow sign in my yard?**

If you have your sign from last year, please feel free to place it in your yard immediately. New signs will be delivered between March 21 and early April. We hope the signs will bring attention to this initiative and the topic of supporting the habitat of pollinators. Please place the sign on your property near the sidewalk where it will be visible to the public. All No Mow participants must have signs in their yard to avoid code violations. Make sure that the sign is not placed in the Village right of way, which includes the area between the sidewalk and curb.

#### **GRASS LENGTH**

##### **What if I feel my grass is getting too long?**

If you feel your lawn is too long, go ahead and cut it. This initiative is about habitat, but also about bringing attention to how we can do things better for pollinators and ourselves. Studies indicate that the optimal mowing cycle, specifically benefiting pollinators, is every two weeks.

#### **DANDELIONS**

##### **Dandelions went to seed in my yard and it looks terrible - what should I do?**

After a dandelion goes to seed, they are no longer a benefit to pollinators, so please feel free to cut them. But please be careful to cut the seeding dandelions high so that you do not cut the dandelions that are still flowering.

#### **YARD HEALTH TIPS FOR POLLINATORS**

- Avoid using pesticides
- Plant colorful native wildflowers
- Grow flowers in clusters
- Plant a wide variety of flowering plants that bloom during different times throughout the year
- Plant trees, herbs, flowering fruits and vegetables
- Leave some areas, even small areas, undisturbed
- Create a nesting shelter

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

During the program, code enforcement staff will be enforcing lawn height property maintenance codes for all residents that do not have the No Mow sign displayed in their yard. Properties that are participating in the program are expected to be mowed after the Mother's Day weekend, and no later than the following Saturday.

#### **NO MOW SIGN PICKUP**

After Mother's Day on May 8, 2022, participants can keep their sign and use it again next year. However, on the Friday after Mother's Day, our Public Works staff will collect all No Mow signs that are still out so that they can be reused next year.

#### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

Overall, the Village has had a very positive response to this program. We understand that some people may not be in favor of this initiative, but the program is temporary and will end May 8. We ask for everyone's patience and support during this timeframe. If there are further questions, please contact us at [green@westmont.il.gov](mailto:green@westmont.il.gov)