

Uniform Poison Ivy Practice

November 2, 2022

The Town is developing a uniform practice to deal with all cases where Poison Ivy has been identified on a property. Poison Ivy is a noxious weed under the provisions of By-law 5190-19 (The Clean Yard By-law).

Section 3.1(c) of the By-law provides that every owner, lessee or occupant of land keep the land free from noxious weeds.

Section 3.4 of the By-law provides that the Town may give the owner, lessee or occupant written Notice to rectify the problem. If Notice is given in writing, the individual receiving the Notice shall be provided with a specific deadline for the problem to be rectified; in no event shall the individual be given less than 72 hours to rectify the problem.

Section 3.5 of the By-law provides that if the problem identified is not rectified as per the written Notice that the Town may direct the work to be done and that the costs be added to the tax roll.

On a going-forward basis, when the Town receives a complaint that poison ivy exists on a property, Town staff will attend the property to confirm the existence of the poison ivy. Town staff will attempt to work co-operatively with the individual to achieve an agreeable timetable for removing the poison ivy; however, if an agreement on a timeline is not reached or if reached and not adhered to, then the Town will issue a written Notice. The timeline to rectify as set out in the written Notice may vary from individual to individual depending on unique circumstances that may exist. If the written Notice is not complied with, then the Town will direct that the work be done and the cost be added to the tax roll of the property owner.