

Neilson Creek Housing Co-operative Inc.

ACCEPTABLE YARD POLICY

Passed by the Board of Directors on April 9, 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE.....	1
ARTICLE 2: DEFINITIONS	1
2.1 Definitions	1
ARTICLE 3: GENERAL PROVISIONS	1
3.1 Administration of Policy:	2
3.2 Removal of refuse	2
3.3 Lawn growth and weeds	2
3.4 Lawn and garden tools and other equipment	2
3.5 Wood decks and lawn/flowerbed enclosures	2
3.6 Storage containers	2
3.7 Outdoor furniture	3
3.8 Dog waste	3
3.9 Bird feeders.....	3
ARTICLE 4: PROHIBITIONS	3
4.1 Refuse not cleared from yard – prohibited	3
4.2 Lawn growth and weeds – fail to maintain - prohibited	3
4.3 Lawn and garden tools and equipment – prohibited	3
4.4 Wood decks and lawn/flowerbed enclosures – fail to maintain - prohibited.....	3
4.4 Storage containers – fail to maintain - prohibited	3
4.5 Outdoor Furniture – fail to maintain – prohibited	3
4.6 Dog Waste – fail to maintain - prohibited	4
4.7 Bird Feeders – prohibited	4
ARTICLE 5: ENFORCEMENT	4

ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE

A policy requiring all members to keep their yards, both front and back, clean, clear, and tidy from refuse, objects or conditions that may create a health and safety hazard or a nuisance.

ARTICLE 2: DEFINITIONS

2.1 Definitions

In this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

“Lawn” means perennial turfgrass grown for ground cover. It also includes artificial turf.

“Member” includes an occupant of a household that is eighteen (18) years of age or older and has become a member.

“Refuse” means garbage, waste, or rubbish of any kind, including but not limited to:

- (a) rubble, debris, earth, rocks, and stones;
- (b) tree cuttings, limbs, and brush;
- (c) Inoperative vehicles, and/or vehicle parts;
- (d) mechanical, electrical, and any kind of equipment or parts;
- (e) tanks, including gas tanks, old rusted propane tanks/cylinders;
- (f) unused and/or old planter pots, garbage bags, moldy items from weather conditions, clothes, glass, plastic bottles. This includes FILLED leaf bags that are wet, ripped and show signs of having been there for quite some time. Bags must go out on garbage collection days.
- (f) any kind of indoor furniture, or appliances;
- (g) recyclable material such as paper, cardboard, containers, or cartons;
- (h) material from construction or demolition projects;
- (i) hazardous waste containers; including but not limited to car and garage products, personal care products, household cleaning products, pesticides and garden products, paints, solvents and flammable liquids, non-empty aerosol cans, batteries, gas tanks/cylinders.

ARTICLE 3: GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 Administration of Policy:

This policy is administered by the Neilson Creek Board of Directors.

3.2 Removal of refuse

(a) A member shall remove any Refuse from their yard so that it is left in a clean and clear condition.

(b) A member shall ensure their yard is kept clean, clear, and free from objects or conditions, that may create a health or safety hazard, or a nuisance.

3.3 Lawn growth and weeds

(a) A member shall ensure their lawn does not exceed 3 inches in height or length.

(b) A member shall ensure their yard is not overgrown with weeds.

(c) A member shall ensure their lawn does not create a health or safety hazard, or a nuisance.

(d) Artificial turf grass, also known as Astro turf is not permitted per the City of Toronto By-law.

3.4 Lawn and garden tools and other equipment

Every member shall ensure that all lawn and garden tools and equipment are stored away in an enclosed area such as a shed or garage when not in use. This includes work equipment such as ladders, powered and non-powered tools.

3.5 Wood decks and lawn/flowerbed enclosures

Every member shall ensure that any wood decks, lawn and/or flower bed enclosures are free of rotting or decaying wood, tripping hazards, and loose or broken wood pieces. There should be no visible nails sticking out which can cause harm. If these items were present at the time of moving in and you did not remove them nor did you bring it to the attention of the office within 30 days, you have assumed full responsibility for them.

3.6 Storage containers

Every member shall ensure that outdoor storage containers are made of rigid, watertight construction. They must have a tight-fitting cover and must be maintained in good condition without holes.

3.7 Outdoor furniture

Every member shall ensure that any outdoor furniture is kept in a clean, neat, and tidy condition and maintained in good repair. Broken, unused and moldy furniture shall be disposed of. No member shall use indoor furniture, outdoors as it is not made for outdoor weather conditions.

3.8 Dog waste

Every member shall ensure that they immediately pick up and properly dispose of dog waste.

3.9 Bird feeders

Every member shall ensure that they do not hang bird feeders in their front yard nor in their backyard as they may attract rodents.

ARTICLE 4: PROHIBITIONS

4.1 Refuse not cleared from yard – prohibited

Every member shall clear their yard of refuse in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.2 Lawn growth and weeds – fail to maintain - prohibited

Every member shall maintain lawn growth and weeds in their yard in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.3 Lawn and garden tools and equipment – prohibited

Every member shall store tools and equipment properly in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.4 Wood decks and lawn/flowerbed enclosures – fail to maintain - prohibited

Every member shall ensure that wood decks and/or enclosures are maintained in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.4 Storage containers – fail to maintain - prohibited

Every member shall store items in proper outdoor storage containers in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.5 Outdoor Furniture – fail to maintain – prohibited

Every member shall maintain their outdoor furniture in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.6 Dog Waste – fail to maintain - prohibited

Every member shall ensure immediate and proper disposal of dog waste in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.7 Bird Feeders – prohibited

No member shall hang a bird feeder in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

ARTICLE 5: ENFORCEMENT

Yard inspections will be conducted three times per calendar year. Any member failing to comply with the provisions in this policy will receive a Yard Task Notice. One follow up inspection will be conducted and if any member is still failing to comply, the member will be asked to come forth to the Board to discuss the matter.