

AN ORDINANCE OF THE [CITY OF _____ or COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE] REQUIRING COMPLETION OF COURSE ON OVERSEEDING ALTERNATIVE AS A PREREQUISITE FOR ISSUANCE OF BUSINESS LICENSE TO LANDSCAPE-RELATED BUSINESSES IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY

THE [CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____, CALIFORNIA or BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE], DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. FINDINGS

- A. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that air quality within the Coachella Valley is significantly impacted by the local tradition of scalping the summer (Bermuda) turfgrass in preparation for annual overseeding with rye grass each fall.
- B. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that air quality is one of the most essential issues associated with public health and safety, which in turn is essential to the continued economic well-being of the Coachella Valley and to the needs of its residents.
- C. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), in partnership with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and local stakeholders, has developed a course promoting an overseeding process whereby there is a gradual reduction of watering combined with a progressive lowering of the turf as an alternative to the traditional single-scalping operation (as described in the "Promoting Healthier Grass Re-seeding" brochure available online at www.cvag.org).
- D. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that results from a research project, "The Effect of Fall Renovation Treatments on PM10 Emissions During Raking of Debris Following Scalping of Common Bermudagrass Fairways Prior to Overseeding" performed by the University of California, Riverside's Turf Research Advisory Committee (UCRTRAC) in partnership with CVAG, Riverside County, and the Desert Hi-Lo Golf Course Superintendents Association completed in August, 2000 provides the correlation for this alternative (<http://ucrturf.ucr.edu>).
- E. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that the UCR research demonstrates the traditional turf-renovation practices can be modified and the overseeding alternative utilized without undermining the aesthetics of the resulting winter turfgrass.
- F. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that the overseeding alternative does not increase the net cost of the new winter turfgrass.

- G. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that the primary reason for the slow acceptance and under-utilization of the overseeding alternative in the Coachella Valley is the lack of public understanding of the merits and health benefits of the alternative.
- H. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that the most efficient and effective method of promoting the overseeding alternative is to require a representative of the landscaping installation, maintenance and design professionals and their suppliers within the [City or unincorporated Coachella Valley area] to, on an annual basis, attend a two-hour course on the topic, with said course organized by CVAG and AQMD.
- I. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that the public health and safety is served by requiring completion of said course as a prerequisite for the issuance and renewal of business licenses for landscape-related businesses within the [City or Coachella Valley].
- J. The [City Council or Board of Supervisors] finds that a public information campaign regarding the new educational prerequisite can not be organized in sufficient time prior to the 2007 scalping season and that the prerequisite will, therefore, not be enforced until September 1, 2008.

SECTION II. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the public health and safety by insuring landscape-related businesses within the [City or the Coachella Valley] understand and appreciate the overseeding alternative promoted by CVAG, AQMD and local stakeholders which eliminates the need for turf scalping, serves as an air quality control measure and thereby enhances the local air quality.

SECTION III. ADDITION OF SECTION XXX "LANDSCAPE-RELATED BUSINESSES"

[Sub]Section _____ "Landscape-Related Businesses" shall be added to [Chapter _____ or Section _____ of Chapter _____] of the _____ Municipal Code as follows:

[Section _____ Landscape-Related Businesses]

Effective September 1, 2008, as a prerequisite to the issuance or renewal of a business license for any entity providing services or nursery products [in the unincorporated area within the territorial boundaries of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments] related to or used for landscape installation, maintenance, or design, the applicant shall present proof that at least one employee has, within the

twelve months immediately preceding the application, completed a two-hour course developed by the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, the South Coast Air Quality Management District and local stakeholders, on grass overseeding alternatives to traditional scalping.

SECTION IV. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining section, subsection and clauses shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION V. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective on the thirtieth (30th) day following its adoption.

SECTION VI. POSTING

The [City Clerk or Clerk of the Board] shall within fifteen (15) days after the passage of this ordinance, cause this ordinance to be posted in at least three (3) public places designated by resolution of the [City Council or Board of Supervisors]; shall certify to the adoption and posting of this ordinance; and shall cause this ordinance and its certification, together with proof of posting, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of this [City or County].

The foregoing ordinance was approved and adopted at a meeting of the [City Council or Board of Supervisors] held on _____, 2007 by the following vote:

- Ayes:
- Noes:
- Abstain:
- Absent:

[Mayor or Chairman of the Board]

ATTEST:

[City Clerk or Clerk of the Board]

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[City Attorney or County Counsel]