



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

To: DSD Associates
From: Roderick J. Sanchez, Director and Code Official
Date: November 15, 2012

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2012-008

TITLE: Maintenance of Golf Course “Roughs” or “Rough”

CODE EDITION: SAPMC – 2011 San Antonio Property Maintenance Code
City Code Chapter 14 – Solid Waste – Article VII. – Lot Clearance

SECTIONS: Sec. 104.1 General
Sec. 302.4 Weeds
Sec. 302.1 Exterior maintenance
Sec. 202 General Definitions
Sec. 14-61 Declaration of public nuisance; areas required to be kept clear;
duty of property owners; time period to abate

QUESTION: Do City ordinances require a golf course in current operation to maintain its natural or manmade “rough” areas free from weeds in excess of 12 inches in height and free of hazardous vegetation?

ANSWER: No. Golf courses in current operation with natural or manmade “rough” areas are not required to maintain these areas free from weeds or plants in excess of 12 inches unless there is hazardous vegetation or such “rough” areas become so overgrown as to cause an immediate health and safety concern.

Golf course “rough” areas are intentional design elements included as part of the landscaping to add complexity to the game of golf, and by their very nature are intended to be overgrown.

San Antonio Property Maintenance Code Section 302.4 – Weeds, states that “All improved premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of (12) inches in height. All noxious

weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens or native grasses, perennials and annual plants installed as part of a landscaping design.



Roderick J. Sanchez, AICP, C.B.O.
Director and Code Official
Development Services Department