

## ORDINANCE NO. 10-04-236

### AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR UNIFORMITY IN MANAGEMENT STANDARDS OF ALL NATURAL AREAS OWNED BY THE FRANKFORT SQUARE PARK DISTRICT

**Whereas**, the FRANKFORT SQUARE PARK DISTRICT owns properties in unincorporated Frankfort Township, the Village of Frankfort, and the Village of Tinley Park, Will and Cook Counties, the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS has determined it to be in the best interest to set uniform practices in the management, future development, and maintenance of native landscapes throughout the district.

**Whereas**, the mission of the Frankfort Square Park District states:

*It is the mission of the Frankfort Square Park District to provide accessible, non-discriminatory recreational services, facilities, and open space in an environmentally conscious, fiscally responsible manner.*

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS of the FRANKFORT SQUARE PARK DISTRICT, Will County, Illinois, and Cook County, Illinois, that:

1. The Frankfort Square Park District (Park District) owns and maintains unique and diverse natural areas throughout incorporated boundaries of the Park District, including, but not limited to, mesic and wet mesic prairies, upland and lowland prairies, woodlands, ponds, basins, and retention/detention areas.
2. Natural areas owned and maintained by the Park District provide a myriad of benefits that include, but are not limited to, improved water quality, compensatory water storage, erosion control, elimination of nitrogen-based fertilizers, reduction of chemical herbicide usage, proliferation of wildlife habitats and the creation of sustainable landscapes.
3. The Park District shall maintain, develop, and promote environmental stewardship, providing its natural areas as community resources for the education and enjoyment of Park District residents, and will promote community awareness of Best Management Practices (BMPs) as herein defined:

Policies, practices, procedures, or structures implemented to mitigate the adverse environmental effects on surface water quality resulting from development.
4. The Park District's management standard for methods of care in providing overall enhancement of natural areas shall include, but not be limited to, mowing, prescribed burns, mechanical removal, selective herbicide control, over-seeding, and installation of plugs and plants within the limitations of staff and budget.
5. The Park District will only employ removal of invasive, non-native plants that would detract from the Park District's mission, limit recreational use in defined locations, or threaten the overall health and success of plant and animal life.

6. The management standard shall only allow chemical herbicide control by licensed chemical operators overseen by licensed chemical applicators, as permitted by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Chemical herbicides will be applied in strict adherence to the manufacturer's label for effective control of listed species. Its use, at approved levels of application, will be for non-natives that threaten the success of native landscapes, the overall viability of natural areas, or to facilitate recreational usage of specified locations. Recreational usage is defined as:


A Park District fishable location that meets the IDNR criteria for fish stocking, comprising an average depth greater than 8 feet for the total surface area of the body of water. The only approved location for recreational boating within the Park District is at Island Prairie Park.

7. The management standard shall not incorporate controls of natural areas exclusively for aesthetic purposes. Natural areas provide a specific purpose, and "appearance", a non-quantified measure, shall not provide the basis for herbicide control of native plant life.
8. The Park District shall periodically evaluate and solicit an independent third-party review by non-Park District personnel with expertise in natural and native landscapes to create a summary of property and define objectives for future management and enhancement.
9. Advanced training shall be provided for Park District staff in the form of applicable workshops/seminars and classes, related to natural areas management.


ENACTED by the Frankfort Square Park District on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010, on the Motion of Park Commissioner Ken Blackburn and the second of Park Commissioner Jill Simmons and the following roll call vote:

<u>5</u>	Ayes
<u>0</u>	Nays
<u>0</u>	Abstain
<u>2</u>	Absent

APPROVED by me this 15<sup>th</sup> day of  
April, 2010.

By:   
Pamela Kohlbacher, President  
Park Board of Commissioners

ATTEST

  
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J.J. Randall, Secretary  
Park Board of Commissioners

SEAL