



An Easy Property Self Inspection Checklist

The following checklist will help residents evaluate the condition of their homes and property for compliance with common neighborhood expectations as well as some requirements of the Otsego City Code.

Yard Maintenance	Does your property meet these conditions?	Yes	No
There is no outside storage of trash, garbage, junk, leaves/brush/branches, animal feces, car parts, appliances, unwanted furniture, scrap wood or metal, tires, buckets, equipment or other miscellaneous items.			
Garbage and recycling containers or are stored in the garage or in the interior side yard or rear yard at least five (5) feet from property lines.			
Garbage and recycling containers that are stored outside are tightly covered so as to keep out dogs, birds, insects or other pests and keep trash from blowing around.			
Grass is not taller than 8 eight inches, there are no noxious weeds in the lawn and no accumulation of dead grass/weeds except in a composting structure.			
Recreational equipment such as basketball hoops, hockey nets, etc., are not within the street or behind the curb within the public right-of-way or obstructing sidewalks or trails.			
Parking within residential areas is limited to licensed and operable passenger automobiles, vans, and trucks rated as Class 3 or GVW of 14,000 pounds or smaller; off street parking of vehicles Class 4 or GVW of 14,001 pounds or larger is prohibited, except that parking of one (1) Class 5 vehicle with a GVW up to 19,500 pounds accessory to a residential use shall be allowed provided that the vehicle is parked within an accessory structure, on a paved surface within the front yard or within a rear or side yard subject to the setbacks required for principal buildings.			
There are not more than 2 recreational vehicles, trailers or equipment (not including unlicensed/inoperable automobiles) stored outside or no recreational vehicles parked in the front yard other than on the driveway.			
No structures, fences, plants or activities (such as lawn mowing) may encroach on City parks, City owned ponds, wetland and wetland easements, or other public property without proper City authorization.			
House, Building and Structures	Do your buildings meet these conditions?	Yes	No
There are address numbers displayed on the front of the house visible from the street.			
The mailbox does not extend into the street beyond the face of the curb and the bottom of the box is at least 45 inches above the pavement.			
There are no holes, cracks or rotting wood in building foundations, walls, trim, soffits, eaves or siding; there is no loose or missing siding, broken doors, windows or screens.			
The roof is not sagging, damaged, missing shingles or has holes.			
Any porch or deck does not have loose, missing or rotted boards, columns or railings or is sagging, leaning or unstable.			
Fences, retaining walls, sheds, garages or other structures are not missing siding/parts, leaning, falling down or have deteriorated or rotting boards.			
None of the above-mentioned structures have deteriorated finishes such as blistering, cracked or peeling paint, stain or visible rust.			

Answering “**YES**” to all of the items means you are successfully maintaining your property - thank you for caring about your property and your neighborhood!

If you have any questions about yard maintenance, outdoor storage or building requirements or to report a code violation in your neighborhood, please call City Hall at 763.441.4414 or visit the City’s website to report on-line.