



# NEW CASTLE COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS HELPS COUNTY TO PROTECT COMMUNITY FROM BLIGHTED PROPERTIES

## WHAT'LL GET YOU A TICKET?

### \*TOP 10 VIOLATIONS \*

- High grass and weeds
- Accessory structures (sheds, fences, etc.) in poor condition
- Inoperable and/or unregistered vehicles
- Parking on grass
- Oversized vehicles
- Outside storage of household items
- Not having trash in proper waste container
- Accumulation of rubbish, garbage or debris
- Unsanitary swimming pools, or empty pools not covered
- Overgrown shrubs or trees that extend beyond sidewalk or right of way.

To report a property code violation, call the Department of Land Use at 395-5555.

#### SYNOPSIS:

The Ordinance amended the New Castle County Property Maintenance Code, Chapter 7, of the *New Castle County Code* with regard to administrative enforcement of health, safety, and sanitation matters. The amendments allow the Office of Code Enforcement to issue citations imposing civil penalties against property owners who fail to comply with the identified health, safety, and sanitation sections of the Property Maintenance Code. In addition, the amendments are intended to permit any unpaid amounts of these civil penalties to be added to the County property tax billing for the property that was the subject of the citation, and for the unpaid civil penalties to give rise to a lien on such property as authorized by *9 Del. C. § 2905 and 25 Del. C. § 2901*. The appeal procedure identified by this Ordinance would require that appeals from civil penalties be sent in writing to the Department of Land Use within twenty-one (21) business days after the date of the citation. In order to appeal, a person must send a detailed written explanation of the grounds for appeal, along with payment in full of the citation. The Code Official, or his or her designee, must issue a written opinion deciding the appeal within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt of the written appeal. In the event that the penalty is reversed, revoked, vacated, or decreased in amount, the appellant will be reimbursed for the portion of the civil penalty vacated or decreased. The decision of the Code Official may be appealed to the Board of License, Inspection, and Review, pursuant to *Section PM 106.3.15, Administrative Appeals*