

Administration

224 West Ninth Street
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8600 F: 367-8114

Engineering/Real Estate

224 West Ninth Street
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8601 F: 367-4310

Environmental

1203 North Western Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-1201
T: 605-367-8276 F: 367-4886

Fleet Management

1000 East Chambers Street
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8240 F: 367-8239

GIS

132 North Dakota Avenue
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8651 F: 367-8113

Household Hazardous Waste Facility/Sustainability

1015 East Chambers Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-7200
T: 605-367-8695 F: 367-4993

Landfill

224 West Ninth Street
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8162 F: 367-8167

Light

2000 North Minnesota Avenue
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-373-6979 F: 373-6974

Street

1000 East Chambers Street
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8255 F: 367-8200

Utility Billing

1201 North Western Avenue
P.O. Box 7401
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7401
T: 605-367-8131 F: 367-7341

Utility Maintenance

668 West Algonquin Street
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-367-8810 F: 367-7883

Water Purification

2100 North Minnesota Avenue
P.O. Box 7402
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-7402
T: 605-373-6940 F: 373-6941

Water Reclamation

4500 North Sycamore Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-9612
T: 605-367-8188 F: 367-8484

Dear Resident:

Subject: Maintenance of City Drainage Property

Thank you for your comments regarding the mowing of City property near your home. The area behind your home is part of a large drainage property that is maintained in the same manner as the other city-owned drainage properties throughout town. The higher ground on the parcel may have misled you to believe the development contained a City park. Many drainage properties have higher ground that is dry for most of the year making it accessible for recreational activities. However, these properties are not intended to function as parks. We maintain our parks to accommodate those activities and we are maintaining our drainage properties to accomplish their primary goal of conveying water safely to the Big Sioux River.

In past years, our maintenance crews were mowing drainage properties as close to the water as possible. This program was changed in 2012 based on many factors including sustainability, water quality, drainage conveyance and being responsible with the taxpayers. As these properties mature, the natural grasses should flourish and eventually choke out most of the weeds. The natural grasses also have a deeper root structure that will aid in erosion control as well as increasing the ability for the soil to absorb water.

The City Health Department is actively testing and treating all drainage properties to ensure the mosquito population is controlled. They will continue this throughout the summer months. If you have questions regarding their treatment efforts, please contact them at 367-8799. As for nuisance wildlife, if you have a specific issue, please contact Animal Control at 367-7000.

There is a transition period involved in this process that we must work through. We only spray for noxious weeds on the property and, as the site matures, these weeds should get choked back. We are monitoring the non-noxious weed growth and if it becomes a hindrance to the natural plant establishment, we will take appropriate measures to suppress the weed growth. We have hired a vegetation consultant to provide his expertise. He provides us with suggestions and direction as the properties mature to ensure we are handling them correctly by not allowing undesirable vegetation to overtake the property. This transition period takes anywhere from 2-4 years to become established; please bear with us as we progress through this change.

If you have any additional questions or wish to discuss this further, please feel free to call me at 367-8637 or email me at aberg@siouxfalls.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Andrew Berg, P.E.
Principal Engineer – Drainage