

Weedee City Rewrite

Students will rewrite the following message, which was sent by a real city employee. The name of the city has been changed to protect that city. Since students must first recognize the negative parts of this message, students individually highlight all the negative parts of the example. Students then work in teams to

- a) discuss the negative aspects of the original message
- b) determine a positive theme
- c) rewrite the message in persuasive style (all positive.)

Students submit both the individual highlighted page as well as the revised team message.

Weedee City Example Message

As the Zoning and Compliance officer for Weedee City, I have noticed an unsightly amount of weeds on your property. According to Weedee City weed ordinance, weeds are a nuisance when they create a fire hazard, are dangerous to human health, and are a breeding place or habitation for insects, rodents, or other forms of life harmful to humans or are unsightly or damaging to their surroundings. If the weeds are above 20 inches tall, it is required they are cut and removed from the premises with 24 hours of the cutting (Weedee City Code 4-2-2.)

To ensure Weedee City continues to be a pleasant and desirable place to live, please correct this problem within 10 days. In the event you disagree or do not wish to comply, you must request in writing a hearing before city council. If the problem is not corrected within 10 days or you do not file for an appeal, a citation will be issued. The fine for this infraction is \$500. Thank you for your cooperation.