

# Mapleton City Planning Commission Staff Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2011

**Item:** 4

**Applicant:** Mapleton City

**Prepared by:** Matt Brady

**Public Hearing Item:** Yes

## **REQUEST**

Mapleton City requests to amend Mapleton City Code Chapter 17.15: LANDSCAPE STANDARDS in order to allow for xeriscaping (low-water landscaping) in residential developments.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT:**

1. Mapleton City has received some inquiries on whether the City would consider allowing fully xeriscaped residential front yards in the interest of conserving water.
2. On July 8, 2010, the Planning Commission held a discussion item on landscaping and xeriscaping, and gave direction to Staff to draft an ordinance allowing xeriscaping in residential developments (see attachment #1 for the July 8, 2010 Planning Commission minutes).
3. Staff has drafted proposed amendments to the landscaping ordinance to allow for xeriscaping. See Attachment #2 for the proposed amendments to Mapleton City Code Chapter 17.15: LANDSCAPE STANDARDS.

## **STAFF RECCOMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the proposed amendments to Mapleton City Code Chapter 17.15: LANDSCAPE STANDARDS.

## **ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS:**

1. The Planning Commission may Deny the proposed ordinance amendment. Reasons for denial should be stated in the motion.
2. Continue to a Future Meeting Date: This action could be based upon findings that additional information is required prior to rendering a decision or to further consider information.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Planning Commission Minutes - July 8, 2010
2. Proposed Ordinance Amendments - Mapleton City Code Chapter 17.15: LANDSCAPE STANDARDS