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Policy Title

## **VEGETATION CONTROL**

Council Resolution	GMOS	CC	Cross Reference	Effective
No. 414-02 Date: September 10, 2002				September 10, 2002

## **PURPOSE AND INTENT**

To control the growth of brush and noxious weeds and to eradicate restricted weeds on County controlled road allowances.

## POLICY STATEMENT

The Agricultural Services Department shall spray roadsides for the control of noxious weeds as well as for the eradication of restricted weeds. The County shall not spray roadsides which are:

- within 100 metres of a residential dwelling.
- within 30 metres of a body of water (except where a special use approval is in place).
- next to crops sensitive to the chemical being sprayed.
- adjacent to gardens or nurseries.
- where applicable, all spraying will be from the shoulder of road to fence line.
- which are posted with a "Do Not Spray" sign.

All spraying shall be undertaken by a County crew which is supervised by an employee who is a licensed Pesticide Applicator.

## **GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

- 1. Spray roadsides with a selective, residual type herbicide to control weeds/brush wherever applicable.
- 2. Mow roadside areas wherever necessary to control weeds, where spraying is not permissible, such as in front of shelterbelts, yard sites, etc.
- 3. Map outlining areas requiring control of noxious and restricted weeds.
- 4. Map areas to identify new weed species outbreaks. Drive area and map water courses and water bodies etc. every year.
- 5. Advertise in local paper, areas where major spraying will take place and type of herbicide that will be used.
- 6. The roadside spraying program shall normally be completed by September 1st which is considered the end of the growing season.
- 7. Spraying should commence in early morning when winds are not prevalent and the temperature is cooler, causing less evaporation and better plant intake.
- 8. Spraying shall be supervised by an employee who is a licensed pesticide applicator.
- 9. A daily record of areas sprayed, windspeed direction, chemical used, weather conditions, etc., shall be kept.

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- 10. All applicators are to follow the guidelines of the IVMAA (Industrial Vegetation Management Association of Alberta) Industry Standards and Good Practices for Vegetation Management. Also, all applicators are to work within guidelines specified by Parkland County's application of pesticide "Service Approval". Any applicator who knowingly violates this approval will be terminated.
- 11. Proper safety equipment (i.e. goggles, respirators, nitrile gloves, disposable coveralls) shall be supplied by the employer. These are to be worn by personnel when working with herbicides. CSA approved safety toed footwear are to be supplied by the employee.
- 12. The spray truck shall be kept *clean* at all times (both inside and out). Outside to be flushed down after each fill-up. No dirty coveralls, gloves, etc. brought inside cab.
- 13. A map shall be filled out each day outlining roadsides sprayed.
- 14. Any repairs/breakdowns of equipment shall be reported immediately to the supervisor so the problems may be rectified immediately.
- 15. Private land with infestations of restricted/noxious weeds shall be reported to the Manager/Supervisor of Agricultural Services so that appropriate control action may be taken according to the Weed Control Act.
- 16. Any work related problems or concerns shall be brought to the supervisor's attention. If problems cannot be rectified at that level, they shall be addressed at a higher level.
- 17. Areas requested not to be sprayed are to be mapped and designated "No Spray" areas. A "No Spray" area is defined as a section of municipal road right-of-way which would normally be maintained under the regular roadside spraying program, but which has been requested by a ratepayer not to be sprayed. The ratepayer then becomes responsible for weed and brush control in the designated area, as defined by the "No Spray" agreement.