

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PEACE NO.135 POLICY****PREPARED BY:**

Joyce Sydnes

**ADOPTED BY:**

Council

**NUMBER:**ASB - 3  
page 1**TITLE:**

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT POLICY

**SUPERSEDES:****DATE:** June 12, 2001**PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

To provide policy and procedures for the control of weeds on public and private lands.

**POLICY STATEMENT:****1. Noxious & Restricted Weed Control - Programming**

- a) Policy The ASB shall develop and implement programs that will prevent further spread of noxious and restricted weeds as per the Weed Control Act, control and eliminate infestations of existing weed problems and prevent the spread of identified new weeds within the M.D. and when possible encompassed urban centers.
- b) Procedure
1. Establish a continuing awareness campaign through such things as farm calls, kitchen meetings, tours, newsletters and local media resources.
  2. Hire and train sufficient support staff to complement the weed control program within budget guidelines.
  3. ASB staff will conduct weed inspection and carry out enforcement as required in accordance with the Weed Control Act.
  4. The Agricultural Fieldman shall coordinate all vegetation management programs in such a manner so as each component complements the other program components.
  5. The vegetation management program shall be reviewed and amended as required on an annual basis.

**2. Noxious Weed Control - Enforcement**

- a) Policy The ASB shall enforce the Weed Control Act and municipal bylaws related to weed control.
- b) Procedure
1. Inspections are conducted in a timely manner to identify new problems that have developed over the growing season.
  2. Owners of subdivided land, 20 acres or less in size, and urban lots within the Hamlet of Brownvale, containing uncontrolled weeds, shall be given a Notice to Remedy Weed Problem (Form A) prior to July 31.
  3. Where a problem exists, a weed inspection report is prepared and the occupant, which is defined in the Weed Control Act as a person occupying or exercising control or having the right to occupy or exercise control over land, is verbally contacted to discuss options to remedy the weed problem.

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ASB - 3

page 2

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**SUPERSEDES:**

DATE: March 2001

**PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

To provide policy and procedures for the control of weeds on public and private lands.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

All contact with the occupant must be recorded in the weed inspection report and consist of time and date of contact plus what was discussed.

If no contact can be established during the first attempt, the weed inspector needs to attempt to contact the occupant a second time.

If after all reasonable efforts to contact the occupant have been unsuccessful, a letter regarding the weed problem will be sent to the occupant with a copy being forwarded to the landowner.

Weed inspection reports are to include a written report, a picture of the site including time and date taken, the legal land location and the identified weed problem.

4. The weed problem will be identified and a control program developed with the occupant. If the weed problem is not rectified, a "Notice to Control the Growing and Use of Crops" (Form B) is to be issued prior to December 31st with the compliance date being June 15th of the following year. Form B notices will outline the crops to be planted in the following year and list the crops not to be grown.
5. Farm calls will be made during the winter months to assist occupants in developing a viable weed control program.
6. Quarters with outstanding notices will be re-inspected prior to June 15th by the Agricultural Fieldman. The owner/occupant will be informed of the inspection time and requested to attend.
7. In failure of voluntary action by the landowner/occupant, the fieldman will proceed with enforcement procedures pursuant to the Weed Control Act. This action will be taken after notification to the Agricultural Service Board and Council. At this time a "Notice to Remedy Weed Problem" (Form A) will be issued with a copy to the Municipal Secretary.

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**POLICY STATEMENT:**

8. The Agricultural Fieldman will take action and arrange for enforcement work to proceed. The Municipal Secretary will invoice the owner for the cost of control work. If not paid within 30 days, the Municipal Secretary shall cause the amount owing to be placed on the tax roll.
9. Enforcement work shall be carried out as directed in the Notice and in accordance with Section 16 of the Weed Control Act.

**3. Restricted Weed Control - Enforcement**

- a) Policy The ASB shall enforce the Weed Control Act and municipal bylaws related to weed control.
- b) Procedure
  1. Inspections are conducted in a timely manner to identify new problems that have developed over the growing season.
  2. Where a Restricted Weed Problem has been identified, the Agricultural Fieldman will issue a "Notice to Remedy Weed Problem" (Form A) with a copy to the Municipal Secretary.
  3. In failure of voluntary action by the landowner/occupant, the Agricultural Fieldman will proceed with enforcement procedures pursuant to the Weed Control Act. This action will be taken after notification to the Agricultural Service Board and Council.
  4. The Agricultural Fieldman will take action and arrange for enforcement work to proceed. The Municipal Secretary will invoice the owner for the cost of control work. If not paid within 30 days, the Municipal Secretary shall cause the amount owing to be placed on the tax roll.
  5. Enforcement work shall be carried out as directed in the Notice and in accordance with Section 16 of the Weed Control Act.

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page 4

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**PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

To provide policy and procedures for the control of weeds on public and private lands.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

**4. Noxious & Restricted Weed Control - Roadside Spraying**

- a) Policy The ASB shall control noxious weeds and brush along Municipal right of ways.
- b) Procedure
  1. All municipal roads shall be sprayed as part of a two-year rotation using a short-term residual broadleaf herbicide.
  2. Problem areas as designated by the Agricultural Fieldman shall be sprayed annually or as required.
  3. Brush spraying will take place where brush is less than 2 meters in height. Brush higher than this shall be either hydro-axed, cut and piled or moved depending on the size and density of the brush.
  4. Only selective herbicides registered for use on right-of-ways shall be used in the vegetation management program.
  5. Spraying shall be followed up the following year by mowing as required to remove dead brush residue.
  6. No spraying shall take place adjacent to hedges, shelterbelts, yard sites, dugouts or environmentally sensitive areas.
  7. Ratepayers shall be notified by newspaper prior to the start of the spraying program each year.
  8. Ratepayers may request that no spraying be conducted adjacent to their property by signing a written waiver in person at the Municipal office. Ratepayers shall assume the responsibility for control measures on adjoining roadside where they have requested no spraying.

**5. Sale of Pesticides**

- a) Policy The ASB will not offer for sale any pesticides to ratepayers due to environmental regulations.