

**Brazeau  
County**

POLICY TITLE: Weed Control Policy  
POLICY NUMBER: AG-8  
REFERENCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVED BY COUNCIL: August 10, 2004

POLICY STATEMENT

The Weed Control Act of Alberta is designed to control the spread of noxious weed infestations and to destroy restricted weeds through regulatory means.

The overall objective of Brazeau County is to carry out a Weed Control program, under the authority of the Weed Control Act, to prevent the spread and establishment of weeds on public and private lands.

POLICY

The A.S.B. shall appoint and hire a sufficient number of Weed Inspectors to enforce the Weed Control Act. The local authority may make bylaws designating nuisance weeds either noxious or restricted, and noxious weeds as restricted.

Responsibility for control of weeds on private land will at all times rest with the owner or occupant.

It is the responsibility of the County to control weeds on county land and to enforce the Weed Control Act on private land.

Brazeau County shall issue weed notices on all restricted weeds and may issue weed notices for noxious weeds that are a concern in the County. When a weed notice is issued, the Agricultural Fieldman shall inform the Chairman, of the A.S.B., the local member for the area of the Agricultural Service Board, and the division Councillor.

Mechanical weed control will be the preferred method used, selective herbicides may be applied when mechanical weed control is not practical.

In the case of non-compliance of a weed notice, legal action may be initiated and arrangements will be made to commence enforcement work. Under conditions of non-compliance of a week notice, the weeds will be controlled through either municipal resources or a contractor hired and paid by the County. All such cost shall be recovered under the Weed Control Act as set out under the "Schedule of Fees Bylaw" as amended by Council from time to time.

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Any and all weed notices that are issued will be followed through to their conclusion, in order to maintain effective control of the problem weeds.

### Order of Priority

The weed control program of Brazeau County shall use the following list to prioritize control efforts:

1. County right-of-ways, county controlled properties.
2. Gravel pits (public and private), Agri-business, private equipment storage yards and utility corridors.
3. Resource leases and crown land.
4. Private land.

The main objective of the prioritization is the prevention of new infestations through seed transport and effective control of existing infestations.

### Private Contractors

The A.S.B. will maintain a current list of contractors available for roadside mowing, as well as custom weed control, in Brazeau County.

It is the responsibility of these private contractors to guarantee clean, weed-free equipment. The farmer is directly for who is hired and the condition of the equipment. Brazeau County shall not be liable for any work carried out by state of equipment and completion of work from any contractor maintained upon the list hired by an individual or company. Further the primary responsibility for weed-free equipment will at all times rest with the owner or occupant of that equipment, jointly or severally.

No person shall move a machine or vehicle if the movement is likely to cause the spread of a restricted, noxious or nuisance weed. (Section 35, Weed Control Act.).

It is the responsibility of the farmer to ensure that the equipment hired is weed free before entering his land. It is the duty of the resource company to ensure that the equipment hired is weed free before entering his land. It is the duty of the resource company to ensure that equipment used and re-vegetation methods practiced do not introduce weeds on the property.

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If requested by a landowner, the Agricultural Fieldman, at the discretion of the A.S.B., may investigate the degree of weed infestation on and around locations as designed by the landowner, prior to construction of new lease roads, well sites, pipelines or associated construction. A copy of such report shall be given to the landowner, the resource company (if requested) and the Agricultural Service Board, and Council and placed upon the land file. A copy of the report will be made available to any interested party at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman and/or landowner.