



## POLICY

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Policy Title <b>WEED AND BRUSH CONTROL</b>		

Council Resolution No. <b>C/07/05</b>	Date: <b>February 10, 2005</b>	Cross Reference <b>February, 1996 E(2)</b>	Effective <b>February 10, 2005</b>
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### Policy

Lacombe County recognizes a responsibility to control weeds and brush on rights of way as well as County owned property. Responsibility for weed control is legislated under the Weed Control Act of Alberta. Weed control will be carried out to prevent the establishment of Restricted weeds, and control and prevent the spread of Noxious weeds. Nuisance weeds may also be controlled. Brush species will be controlled to enhance public safety on roads and protect the integrity of the road surface.

In carrying out control of weeds and brush Lacombe county will employ an Integrated Vegetation Management approach. This approach will employ methods of vegetation control that are effective and provide for a minimum amount of impact on the surrounding environment.

### Regulations

#### **A. Strategies for control**

The following strategies may be employed for the control of weeds and brush:

1. Application of registered herbicides.
2. Mowing or hand cutting.
3. A combination of mowing and herbicide applications.

#### **B. Scope of Program**

This work will be carried out on the following lands as determined by the Manager of Agriculture Services:

1. All County owned properties
2. All County controlled rights of way.
3. On Provincial rights of way when directed by agreement with the Minister.

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## C. Herbicide Application Operations

1. All herbicide applications are to be carried out in a safe and responsible manner when weather conditions are favorable.
2. Water to be obtained from safe sources such as municipal sources.
3. At least one operator per sprayer unit shall be licensed and the operator shall record all the necessary information required by Alberta Environment and the Manager of Agriculture Services office.
4. Safety equipment such as respirators, extra cartridges, aprons, fresh water, rubber gloves, etc. to be available on each spray unit for operator's use.
5. The following areas are **NOT** to be sprayed:
  - a) 61 m. (200 feet) on either side of a farmstead or a country residence on both sides of the road allowance. This area to be the responsibility of the respective landowner or person in possession of the land.
  - b) Alongside planted shelterbelts if wind direction is not favorable.
  - c) Alongside sensitive crops such as canola, potatoes, alfalfa, clover, peas and other.
  - d) Alongside greenhouse operations, tree nurseries and gardens.
  - e) Beyond the property line of the road allowance.
  - f) Areas designated No Spray zones as per policy AG(12)
6. All herbicide applications will be carried out in accordance to label recommendations.
7. In addition to these restrictions all herbicide applications will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Industrial Vegetation Management Association of Alberta (IVMAA).

## D. Mowing Operations

1. Mowing operations will be conducted in accordance with IVMAA guidelines
2. Operators shall conduct operations keeping traffic situations in mind at all times.
3. Mowing units will be equipped with beacons and flashing lights and shall be operating at all times when mowers are cutting.

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4. When mowers are used to cut brush species the maximum caliper diameter of the brush should not exceed 4" (10 cm).
5. Mowing will only be carried out during daylight hours. Mowers will not operate in foggy conditions.
6. Mower operators will be trained to recognize Scentless chamomile. Scentless Chamomile in the blooming stage will be hand picked and bagged when discovered.