

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Subject: weed control

Ref: ASB

Date Approved: March 14th, 2017

Motion No.: 125/14/03/17

Replaces: 918/28/07/15

(Replaces Field Edge Spraying Policy)

The County of Northern Lights

believes in promoting weed control programs that will prevent the establishment and spread of prohibited noxious and noxious weeds within the boundaries of the County.

The County will spray up to 1 acre per year on private land containing weeds designated under the Weed Control Act in efforts to help residents control difficult weeds.

Chief Elected Official

Chief Administrative Officer

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To administer, recognize, and minimize/eradicate the impacts caused by prohibited noxious and noxious weeds.
- 1.2 Bring education and awareness to businesses and residents within the County to minimize these impacts.
- 1.3 Be a leader as the County of Northern Lights to minimize and or eradicate weeds from the County to reduce negative impact caused by weeds under the Weed Control Act (WCA) of Alberta.
- 1.4 Provide correct, safe and effective weed control for ratepayers.

2.0 AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 Provide direction, supervision and resources to the Agricultural Fieldman for this providing this policy.
- 2.2 Maintain a fleet of equipment and staff to adequately inspect the County. The County will employ a minimum of a fulltime Agricultural Fieldman and a minimum 2 summer staff to inspect the County the provide control measures.
- 2.3 Act as the appeal board in the event of a Weed Notice Appeal and support the Agricultural Fieldman when reasonable to do so.

3.0 AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Act as the appointed Weed Inspector for the County under the Weed Control Act, under Section 7.

- 3.2 Supervise, direct and be responsible for other Council appointed municipal Weed Inspectors under WCA section 10.
- 3.3 Responsible for the issuance and enforcement of a Notice under the Weed Control Act.
- 3.4 Act as liaison between the County and ratepayers to coordinate spraying of areas up to 1 acre in size on private property.
- 3.5 Obtain written request from ratepayers to carry out application and identify the locations to be sprayed. A suitable chemical will be used to provide proper, effective control.
- 3.6 Provide correct control measures, if time and budget permits.

4.0 WEED INSPECTOR RESPONSIBILITY

- 4.1 Follow the Weed Inspection Procedures as determined by the Agricultural Fieldman.
- 4.2 Patrol the County inspecting for prohibited noxious and noxious weed within County property and right of ways, industrial complex, fields, railways, rail yard, green zone, oilfield leases, water ways and other areas. Areas with known existing infestations and owners with negative history's will be prioritized.
- 4.3 Understand the Weed Control Act, in particular Part 3 Inspectors Powers and Notices.
- 4.4 Obtain written request from ratepayers to carry out application and identify the locations to be sprayed. A suitable chemical will be used to provide proper, effective control.
- 4.5 Provide correct control measures, if time and budget permits.

5.0 ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

- 5.1 All prohibited noxious weeds must be destroyed and all noxious weeds must be controlled, under sections 2 and 3.

6.0 NOTIFICATION OF INFESTATION

- 6.1 Landowner/Occupant will be notified of infestation and offered services to control up to 1 acre. If area is larger than 1 acre a Weed Notice maybe issued to control the problem.
- 6.2 The Notice to Control Pests may include the following restrictions: Chemical, mechanical, biological, and cultural controls.