



Policy Name

Weed Control Policy

Policy Number

AG - 8

Policy Statement

The Weed Control Act and Weed Regulation of Alberta is designed to control the spread of prohibited noxious and noxious weed infestations and to destroy prohibited noxious and noxious 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, and to prevent the spread and establishment of weeds on public and private lands.

Assist County landowners in prohibited noxious and noxious weed control through education and incentives.

Brazeau County may enter into an agreement with other urban municipalities to control prohibited noxious and noxious weeds.

Policy

Brazeau County Council shall appoint and hire a sufficient number of Weed Inspectors to enforce the *Weed Control Act, AS-2008 cW 5.1*. The local authority may make bylaws designating noxious weeds as prohibited noxious.

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, AS-2008 cW 5.1* on private land.

Brazeau County shall issue weed notices on all prohibited noxious weeds and may issue weed notices for noxious weeds that are a concern in the County.

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

Chief Administrative Officer: _____
Approved By Council: 91/05/22

Revision Dates: (y/m/d) 17/07/04; 11/09/13; 11/02/24; 10/07/20; 08/06/06; 06/10/10; 04/08/10; 97/05/08

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 weed 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-2008 cW 5.1* as set out under the "Schedule of Fees Bylaw" as amended by Council from time to time.

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.

Brazeau County eligible landowners may also apply for an incentive whereby a rebate may be issued on herbicide purchases, for the control of prohibited noxious and noxious weeds as designated by the *Weed Control Act* located within Brazeau County.

The incentive is at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman or the Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and consists of a 30% rebate on an approved herbicide used at recognized label rates. Appropriate receipts for the approved herbicide are to be submitted to Brazeau County Agricultural Fieldman and must include the units of herbicide purchased, a legal land location where the herbicide has been applied, the rate and method of application, the number of acres sprayed, the date of when applications occurred, and weather conditions at the time of spraying. A map of where the application occurred is also desirable. Fields are to be inspected before and after the herbicide application to ensure that appropriate weed control has been achieved. Pasture sprayers, quad sprayers and back pack sprayers can be rented as per the A.S.B. Equipment Rental Policy and the Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

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.

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Private Contractors

Brazeau County 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 responsible 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 prohibited noxious weed. *Part 1 Weed Control #4 Spread of weeds prohibited, #5 Disposal and storage of weed seeds Weed Control Act, AS-2008 cW 5.1.*

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.

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). A report will be made available to any interested party at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman and/or landowner. Any reports shared with interested parties will not include personal information as per *Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act)*.

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