

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



Title: Vegetation Management Plan	Policy No.: 15-03
Section: 62	Code: P-I
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	E

Legislation Reference:	Alberta Provincial Statutes
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Purpose:	To carry out Vegetation Management Program under the provisions of the Weed Control Act, and the direction of the Agricultural Fieldman. All programs will be implemented in accordance with budget, manpower and weather.
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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

1. Operational Guidelines:

- 1.1 The Agricultural Fieldman must be a certified pesticide applicator and sprayer operators must be authorized assistants as a minimum.
- 1.2 Sprayer operators must follow all legislative requirements and all relevant acts and laws.
- 1.3 All areas of the Vegetation Management policy fall under the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman.
- 1.4 Applicators must keep accurate spray records as follows:
 - 1.4.1 Name of unwanted vegetation for which herbicide was applied.
 - 1.4.2 Date of application and dimensions of application area.
 - 1.4.3 Exact location.
 - 1.4.4 Trade name of herbicide and PCP registration number.
 - 1.4.5 Application rate and amount of herbicide used.
 - 1.4.6 Temperature, wind speed, and wind direction at the time of application.
 - 1.4.7 Method of application.
 - 1.4.8 Applicators name.
 - 1.4.9 Records must be kept for a minimum three (3) years.
- 1.5 Weather conditions: Applicator will cease spray operations if wind speed is greater than 16 km/hr. Wind measurements will be taken during spray operations and recorded. In temperatures below 5 degrees Celsius and above 25 degrees Celsius, and in weather conditions which are conducive to temperature inversions spraying operations will cease.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

2. Blanket Spray:

- 2.1 Divide County into Three Zones as follows:
 - 2.1.1 **Zone 1:**
West County Line of Range Road 200 to Highway 855.
 - 2.1.2 **Zone 2:**
Highway 855 to Range Road 150.
 - 2.1.3 **Zone 3:**
Range Road 150 to East County Line of Range Road 120.
- 2.2 Spray all road allowances, one third of each zone per year, spraying the entire County in a three -year rotation.
- 2.3 Spray one third of each zone per year using a residual herbicide; Chemical choice will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman as environmental, climatic, technical and legal factors may change.
- 2.4 Conduct blanket spraying, targeting the whole ROW where possible. Where crops, pasture or brush are encroaching spray as close to edge as possible to gain best control. If brush is small enough to be controlled then it should be sprayed as well.
- 2.5 Blanket spray should be started **June 1st** as long as growing conditions permit.

3. Weed Inspections and Spot Spray:

- 3.1 Spot Spraying will coincide with weed inspections. Weed inspectors will start roadside weed inspections as soon as possible; e.g., when weed identification becomes possible, as well as weed inspections on private land. Problem areas will be dealt with on a case by case basis.
- 3.2 Historical data (weed maps/GIS data) will be used to conduct weed inspections and spot spraying in problem areas.
- 3.3 Conduct blanket weed inspections as time and manpower permits.
- 3.4 Conduct weed inspections in response to complaints as they may arise.
- 3.5 An effort will be made to rectify weed problems on private land emphasizing cooperation between the Agricultural Service Board and the landowner as per *Policy Statement No. 62-14: Weed Inspection and Notice*. If the landowner is not willing to participate then, at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman, weed notices shall be issued and proper steps will be taken to rectify situation.
- 3.6 Spot Spraying may take place on private land at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman if it is in the best interests of the County's Vegetation Management Plan. There may or may not be a charge to the landowner and this will be determined on a case by case basis. Landowners will be required to sign a chemical release form as per *Schedule "A": Chemical Release Form*.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

3.7 Landowners may apply to participate in a “Reverse Fenceline Program” at the direction or request of the Agricultural Fieldman or at the request of the landowner. This program will allow Agricultural Service Board staff to apply herbicide from the landowner’s property into the County Right-of Way thereby controlling invasive species on fencelines and field margins. Landowners interested in participating in the “Reverse Fenceline Program” must sign ***Schedule “B”: Reverse Fenceline Spray Program – Application Form.***

4. Brush Spraying:

4.1 Brush spraying will commence once brush has “greened up” in late spring and continue until leaf color changes in fall.

4.2 Brush spraying will be coordinated with Public Works Department, following brushing easements to administer brush control program.

4.3 Re-growth is to be sprayed where hydro axing brushing was carried out the year prior as re-growth permits. Trees greater than five feet of height will need to be removed by mechanical means.

4.4 Landowners must be contacted and ***Schedule “A” Chemical Release Form*** sought for signature where application on private land takes place.

4.5 A non residual “brush” control chemical will be used (e.g. Garlon) at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman.

5. Public Works/ Road Construction:

5.1 The Agricultural Service Board and the Public Works Department will coordinate to control vegetation where road construction is to take place and where road construction took place the year prior.

5.2 The Public Works Department will submit to the Agricultural Service Board a schedule for the current years’ construction projects to allow glyphosate application for non-selective vegetation control.

5.3 Glyphosate must be applied a minimum of 14 days prior to construction up to a maximum of 30 days.

5.4 At the request of the Public Works Department the Agricultural Service Board may conduct other spray operations at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman.

6. Hamlets, Resorts, Subdivisions, Other:

6.1 Hamlets and resorts will be sprayed at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman.

6.2 All proper legislation must be followed when applying pesticides in populated areas.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
6.3	Proper signage must be displayed where applicable.
6.4	Other spraying operations can take place at the discretion of the Agricultural Fieldman; e.g. Spraying around shop, spraying around office, spraying around gas dept. meter station etc.).
6.5	The Agricultural Service Board may take applications from the public, as required, to conduct spraying for noxious weeds on private land as manpower and budget permit. Landowners interested in herbicides applied on private land must sign Schedule "A": Chemical Release Form.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	January 14, 2010	Motion # 234-10 - Page # 9204
Amended	May 23, 2013	Motion # 664-13 - Page #10618
Amended	October 12, 2017	Motion # 1124-17 - Page #12819
Amended		

SCHEDULE "A"



CHEMICAL RELEASE FORM

DETAILS	Property Owner: Name: _____
	Address: _____
	Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

LEGAL DETAILS	Legal Description (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands":
	Location: LEGAL, LAND LOCATION:
	¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M

PERMISSION	<p>I (We), do hereby grant permission to SMOKY LAKE COUNTY and its employees or agents, to enter upon the "Land(s)" and use such equipment and material as considered necessary for the application of <u>Herbicides</u>.</p> <p>List and rate of Herbicides to be used:</p> <hr/>
	<p>I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u>, its Councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of <u>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</u> on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described work(s).</p>

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS APPLICATION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDCTIONS.

SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____	DATE: _____
SIGNATURE OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____	DATE: _____



REVERSE FENCELINE SPRAY PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

SCHEDULE "B"

Date: _____

I, _____ Owner
 Lessee
APPLICANT NAME

ADDRESS: _____	TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____
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DO HEREBY apply for the Reverse Fence Line Spray Program and give SMOKY LAKE COUNTY and its employees or agents access to parcels below to spray Herbicides as per *Schedule "A": Chemical Release Form*, along the County road allowance on farmland that I own, rent, or control.

Legal Description

Location: LEGAL, LAND LOCATION:

¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
 ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
 ¼ _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M

I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the Smoky Lake County, its Councillors, officers, employees and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of Smoky Lake County on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performance of the above described work(s).

SIGNATURES

SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____	DATE: _____
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SIGNATURE OF LESSEE: _____	DATE: _____
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