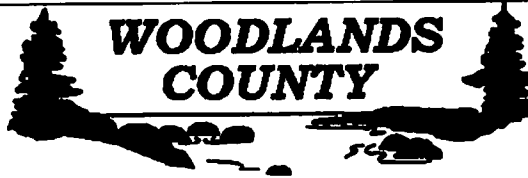


Title: Soil Conservation
Policy No: 6310
Approval: County Council
Effective Date: August 7, 2001
Revised Date: April 19, 2005



Supersedes Policy No:

Policy Statement: To support and promote agriculture practices that consider soil conservation issues involving and affecting agriculture and the Municipality. The Agriculture Services Board will be involved in education, awareness, encouragement and enforcement of the use of good soil conservation practices within the County.

1. The County will provide an ongoing soil conservation awareness program.
2. The Director of Agriculture Services is an enforcement officer under the Alberta Soil Conservation Act and will
 - (a) Firstly, meet with any landowner experiencing soil erosion via drifting to explore ways of preventing the problem.
 - (b) Issue warnings and/or notices, at his discretion, where deemed necessary to prevent or remedy the drifting or erosion problems.
 - (c) Such notices shall identify the nature and extent of the problem, as well as the required remedial measures to be completed.

Acceptable remedial measures may include such action as:

- I. Planting and maintaining shelterbelts;
 - II. Maintenance of soil cover;
 - III. Spreading of straw or fiber;
 - IV. Contour tillage;
 - V. Sub-soiling and ripping;
 - VI. Strip farming;
 - VII. Conservation tillage practice;
 - VIII. Grassing of waterways or riprapping;
 - IX. Re-establishment of grassland;
 - X. Other actions as may be deemed appropriate.
3. A landowner who continues unacceptable farming practices that result in soil erosion or drifting to the degree that eroded soil is deposited on public roadways and drainage ditches, will be responsible for costs incurred for cleaning up the public property. The procedure in this case shall be as follows:

- (a) The landowner will be forwarded a notification of the impending clean up work to be undertaken along with an estimate of the cost of the project.
 - (b) The owner will have the opportunity to undertake the work him or herself or arrange for the work to be done privately at his or her expense and under the supervision of the Director of Agriculture Services.
 - (c) Upon completion of the work (if County undertakes it) an invoice, calculated in accordance with rates noted in the estimate, shall be issued to the landowner.
 - (d) Any outstanding invoice exceeding 120 days will be presented to Council for approval to forward to a collection agency or if there is a by-law in effect, added to the tax roll and collected as though it were taxes.
- 4.
- (a) Any landowner who receives a notice or invoice under the terms of this policy has the right to submit a written appeal to the Agriculture Services Board within 14 working days of issuance of the notice or invoice.
 - (b) When a written appeal is submitted to the Agricultural Service Board, the Board will provide a public hearing where neighboring landowners and the appellant will have the opportunity to present their input to the Board.
 - (c) After the Public Hearing the Board will render a decision within 14 days of the hearing and the appellant and the neighboring landowners will be notified of the decision in writing.