

POLICY NO:	AG 004
POLICY TITLE:	HAMLET WEED CONTROL
DEPARTMENT:	AGRICULTURE
APPROVAL DATE:	38-4-95 (April 1995)
REVISION DATE:	
REVIEW DATE:	

Background:

Generally, the County is responsible for providing weed control services to a Hamlet. Being an urbanized community, the circumstances for weed control procedures are more variable than the typical approach used in a rural setting (farm and field). Existing policies do not adequately address this situation. Other considerations behind improving the mechanism to deliver effective weed control services involve local autonomy (tax dollars returned to the source); local approach to best management practices (i.e.: absentee landowners/vacant lots/status quo); and a complementary approach to other vegetation management (i.e.: fire protection/aesthetics). Previous inquires from local interest groups (service club, Ag. Society) for funding to address these issues indicates disappointment with current activity (i.e.: mowing once a year), and a desire to be more "involved" has been expressed.

Objective:

Provide an efficient mechanism to achieve a higher standard of weed control in Hamlets. (i.e.: Pilot project with Clandonald's Ag. Society).

Procedure:

1. Establish a communication link between the County (Ag-Fieldman's office) and the Hamlet (community association, Ag. Society, etc.)
2. Submission of an "Application for Weed Control Funds" by the Hamlet, to the Ag-Fieldman's office
3. Approval/incorporation of local plan into the ASB weed control budget
4. Transfer budget allocation to the Hamlet as a purchased service (279-62-46-33)
5. Effective reporting/accountability for funds will determine the future status of this program:
 - a. a reporting format can be developed that will provide appropriate evaluation of the efficiency of this approach. (activity/results summary submitted through Ag-Fieldman's office; committee review)

- b. standards of weed control related to the Hamlet and this policy can be developed/assessed through our current weed inspection activity.

Summary:

Creating a mechanism for localized input and action towards weed control in our Hamlets can improve not only the efficiency of what is done, but establish the best management practices acceptable to the community involved.