
CATEGORY:	<u>AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD</u>	(Vegetation Management)
TITLE:	<i>Roadside Spraying & Mowing</i>	
DATE APPROVED:	2008/02/26, 2010/02/23	
DATE REVIEWED:	2015/02/11	
DATE REVISED:	2008/02/20, 2010/02/23	

PURPOSE:

Develop efficient and environmentally sustainable ways to reduce invasive plant species in our roadsides from spreading into the community. Responsibility for weed control is legislated under the Weed Control Act. An Integrated Vegetation Management approach will be used to control weeds to prevent their establishment and the regrowth of brush. This approach will also allow for clear sight lines to signs and intersections, reduce snow accumulation, promote road drainage and drying, facilitate snow removal, and ensure that wildlife grazing at the roadside or preparing to cross are clearly visible.

Procedures:***Herbicide Applications***

1. The County is designated into three distinct regions with one third to be treated annually.
2. All prohibited and noxious weeds are targeted as well as some other weeds depending on populations and species.
3. Herbicide applications shall be confined to the right-of-way unless a Land Entry Agreement has been signed. (*Appendix C*)
4. The followings areas are **NOT** to be sprayed:
 - a) 30 metres on either side of a farmstead or a country residence along the road allowance. This area to be the responsibility of the landowner or occupant of the land.
 - b) Alongside planted shelterbelts, sensitive crops such as canola, potatoes, alfalfa, clover, peas and other if wind direction is not favorable.
 - c) Alongside greenhouse operations, tree nurseries and gardens.
 - d) Within 30 metres of an open body of water unless in accordance with the Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides.
5. Herbicide for brush control must not be applied:
 - b) if it exceeds 2.5 metres in height on rights-of-way adjacent to a road; and
if it covers an area of more than 30% of the vegetation within a 1 kilometer span.
 - b) if it exceeds 4 metres on a cross-country right-of-way.
6. Brush that is over 2.5 metres must be controlled by a selective spot treatment.
7. All herbicide applications will be carried out in accordance to label recommendations.

Mowing

1. All regularly maintained roads are to be mowed annually.
2. Paved roads designated by the County shall be mowed twice each year.
3. Brush that has been removed mechanically, that has not received a herbicide application, shall be targeted to a stem width of up to 3 inches.
4. Operators will be mindful of traffic at all times.
5. To aid with visibility beacon and flashing lights shall be operating at all times.
6. Mowing operations will not occur in foggy conditions.