

Section: A.S.B.	Page: Adopted: November 12, 2014 #512/14
Subject: WEED CONTROL ACT	Control Code: 11.07

**Purpose:**

To prevent the establishment and spread of Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weed species in Camrose County. To educate and raise landowner awareness of Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds. To control and eradicate infestations found within Camrose County.

**Authority:**

Prohibited Noxious and Noxious Weeds are regulated under the provincial *Weed Control Act*. Under the *Agricultural Service Board Act*, the Agricultural Services staff has the responsibility to advise, organize and direct weed control. In defined cases the Agricultural Services staff have the authority under the *Agricultural Service Board Act* to subject land to supervision, rehabilitation or reclamation due to the infestation of weeds.

**Definitions:**

- “Weed Inspector” – a person appointed by Council under Section 7 of the *Weed Control Act* as an inspector for Camrose County.
- “Landowner” – any person registered under the Land Titles Act as the owner, or a person who is in lawful possession of the property or who has the right to exercise control over the property.
- “Occupant” – any person occupying or exercising control or having the right to occupy or exercise control over the land.

**Policy Statements:**

1. Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds will be annually controlled within Camrose County through programs established set in place by Agricultural Services.
2. Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds may be designated under the *Weed Control Act* or by a bylaw of Camrose County.
3. Seasonal or permanent Agricultural Services staff shall be appointed as weed inspectors to carry out the responsibilities of this policy.
4. The Agricultural Service Board will work with landowners and occupants to increase awareness of Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds.

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5. The Agricultural Service Board will take steps to prevent the introduction and spread of Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds on lands within Camrose County.
6. The Agricultural Service Board will take steps to control and eradicate prohibited noxious and noxious weeds.

**Procedure Statements:**

1. Agricultural Services shall hire sufficient weed inspectors to complete inspections within assigned areas of Camrose County.
2. Weed inspectors are responsible for: completing weed inspections in their assigned areas, increasing awareness to the landowner or occupant, issuing of weed notices, recording and reporting weed infestations, and offering suggestions to landowners or occupants regarding weed control options.
3. An inspector's notice may be issued at the discretion of the Manager of Agricultural Services or Assistant Agricultural Fieldman under Section 13 of the *Weed Control Act*.
4. A local authority's notice may be issued at the discretion of the Manager of Agricultural Services or Assistant Agricultural Fieldman under Section 15 of the *Weed Control Act* to owners of subdivided land (parcels under 20 acres).
5. Weed notices shall be delivered by the methods outlined in Section 24 of the *Weed Control Act*.
6. Enforcement of weed notices may occur at the discretion of the Manager of Agricultural Services.
7. The Manager of Agricultural Services will personally inspect an area before a "No Seeding Order" is issued, and before any expenses are incurred which may be chargeable to the land.

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8. Weed inspectors are authorized to enter property for the express purpose of inspecting for Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds invasive plants. They are required to:
- Identify themselves as weed inspectors for Camrose County,
  - Address the landowner or occupant personally or by telephone to identify any Prohibited Noxious or Noxious weed infestations,
  - Or, if unable to contact the landowner or occupant personally or by telephone, to issue a weed notice, send an email or send a letter regarding any Prohibited Noxious or Noxious weed concerns found.
9. Camrose County's Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weed control program shall include:
- Inspection, inventory and monitoring of both public and private lands, waste areas, urban communities,
  - An integrated pest management approach using cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical methods of control,
  - Areas of roadside weed control (roadside spraying) are set in a three to four year rotation,
    - i. All weed control spraying will be recorded on a Camrose County Spray Record
  - Offer "No Spray" zones for land owners or occupants who prefer a non-chemical control method for roadside adjacent to their property,
  - Offer custom spraying services not in competition with a local business for the control of Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weed infestations,
  - Operate a Municipal Seed Cleaning Plant.