



POLICY 2.11 PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL

Department: Agricultural Service Department

Date Approved: November 24, 2015

Rescinds: 735/08/12/14

Council Res. No: 971/11/24/15

PURPOSE:

To ensure that Pests and Nuisances are dealt with in accordance with the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta (R.S.A. 2000, Chapter A-8) and the *Agricultural Pest Regulation* (184/2001).

SCOPE:

Northern Sunrise County recognizes its duty in the prevention of the establishment of, the control of, and the destruction of pests and nuisances under the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta. Northern Sunrise County further recognizes that it is beneficial to the County to implement measures to prevent the establishment of, and/or to control and destruction of pest and nuisances, on all public and private lands within the boundaries of Northern Sunrise County, for the protection of agricultural productivity and the preservation of the natural environment.

DEFINITIONS:

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

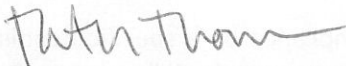
- a. *Agricultural Pest Act* - the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta (R.S.A. 2000 Chapter A-8) and the *Agricultural Pest Regulations* (184/2001).
- b. Compliance Letter - a forceful reminder letter requesting compliance by a specific deadline, and warning of potential issuance of an Inspector's Notice and enforcement for failure to comply. The Compliance Letter has evidentiary value in support of an Inspector's due diligence in the event enforcement becomes necessary. Same definition as other policies?
- c. Control - to inhibit the growth or spread of pest or a nuisance.
- d. Courtesy Letter – an informative letter, to accompany the Pest Inspection Report and pest fact sheet, sent to landowners advising of a pest or nuisance infestation observed by a Pest Inspector, intended as an informational, not legally binding document, the Courtesy Letter has evidentiary value in support of an Inspector's due diligence in the event enforcement becomes necessary.
- e. Eradicate – destroy a pest or nuisance, and minimize the establishment and spread.
- f. Infestation – an intrusion of a pest or nuisance on any personal property and/or vegetation and/or livestock.
- g. Notice – a legally binding document demanding compliance by a specified deadline, and outlining acceptable pest or nuisance control options.
- h. Nuisance - means an animal, bird, insect, plant or disease declared to be a nuisance under Schedule A.
- i. Pest - means an animal, bird, insect, plant or disease declared to be a pest under "Schedule A".

POLICY:

1. Pest inspectors shall attempt to conduct an investigation within 3 working days of receipt of a Pest report or complaint.
2. Pest complaints may be submitted, verbally or in writing, to the Agricultural Services department. The complainant's name shall not be released unless so demanded by the Court of Queen's Bench.
3. All Pests observed during inspections of private or public lands shall, through cooperation or enforcement, be controlled by the registered landowner or occupant (prevent proliferation and propagation through other means).
4. Inspectors appointed under the *Agricultural Pests Act* shall encourage voluntary compliance with the requirements of the *Act*, and shall as a last resort, take action and/or impose penalties as required by the *Act*, upon the landowner or occupant in the event that declared Pest species infest public or private lands unabated.
5. An appointed Inspector may issue and enforce such Notices as required by the *Agricultural Pest Act*, when the Inspector is of the opinion that the property may contain a Pest and the landowner or occupant is unwilling to take measures to control or eradicate the infestation.
6. Pest Inspectors shall attempt to contact landowners at the residence of occupied properties. Courtesy Letters and/or Compliance Letters shall be mailed to all owners, registered occupants of land, material and/or livestock where the Pest Inspector has identified a Pest problem.
7. The attached "Schedule A" contains a list of Pest and Nuisance species declared under the *Agricultural Pests Act of Alberta* (R.S.A. 2000 A-8) and the *Agricultural Pest Regulation* (184/2001) and shall be considered part of this Policy.
8. Policy 2.1 Clubroot of Canola, 2.2 Fusarium Graminearum, 2.4 Grasshopper, 2.6 Virulent Blackleg of Canola or other pest specific County policy supersedes the 2.11 Pest and Nuisance Control Policy.



Reeve



Chief Administrative Officer

2.7 PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL POLICY – SCHEDULE A (PART I)

Schedule AR 184/2001

PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL REGULATION

Pests

The following plants are declared pests in Alberta:

- (a) Bacterial ring rot (*Clavibacter michiganensis* subs. *sepedonicus*);
- (b) Black leg of canola (the virulent strain) (*Leptosphaeria maculans*);
- (c) Columbia River root knot nematode (*Meloidogyne chitwoodi*);
- (d) Dutch elm disease (*Ophiostoma ulmi* and *Ophiostoma nova-ulmi*);
- (e) Native elm bark beetle (*Hylurgopinus rufipes*);
- (f) European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*);
- (g) Dwarf bunt (*Tilletia controversa*);
- (h) Fireblight and the causal bacterium (*Erwinia amylovora*);
- (i) Flag smut of cereals (*Urocystis agropyri*);
- (j) Golden nematode (*Globodera rostochiensis*);
- (k) Grasshopper (*Locustidae*);
- (l) Head smut of corn (*Spacelothecia reiliana*);
- (m) Karnal bunt (*Tilletia indica* Mitra);
- (n) Norway rat and any other rat species or strain derived from the genus *Rattus*;
- (o) Potato wart (*Synchytrium endobioticum*);
- (p) Stem and bulb nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*);
- (q) Warble fly (*Hypoderma* species);
- (r) White rot of onions (*Sclerotium cepivorum* Berk);
- (s) Gypsy moth (*Porthetria dispar* L.);
- (t) Africanized bee (*Apis mellifera adansonii*);
- (u) Lesser grain borer (*Rhyzopertha dominica*);
- (v) Rabies (*Rhabdoviruses*);
- (w) Fusarium head blight (*Fusarium graminearum*);
- (x) Chalkbrood (*Ascosphaera aggregata*);
- (y) Clubroot (*Plasmodiophora brassicae*).

(2) Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) is declared to be a pest where it is at large in Alberta.

AR 184/2001 s2;150/2003;56/2007;64/2008

2.7 PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL POLICY – SCHEDULE A (PART 2)

Nuisances

3(1) The following continue to be declared nuisances throughout

Alberta:

- (a) Coyote (*Canis latrans*);
- (b) Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*);
- (c) Richardson's ground squirrel (*Spermophilus richardsonii*);
- (d) Franklin's ground squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*);
- (e) Thirteen-lined ground squirrel (*Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*);
- (f) Columbian ground squirrel (*Spermophilus columbianus*);
- (g) Northern pocket gopher (*Thomomys talpoides*);
- (h) Deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*);
- (i) Meadow vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*);
- (j) House mouse (*Mus musculus*);
- (k) Bushy-tailed wood rat (*Neotoma cinerea*);
- (l) English sparrow (*Passer domesticus*);
- (m) Rock dove (*Columba livia*);
- (n) European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*);
- (o) Magpie (*Pica pica*).

(2) A horse (*Equus caballus*) is declared to be a nuisance where it is at large in any of the following wildlife management units, as described in Schedule 9 to the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97):

- Wolf River Wildlife Management Unit (340);
- McLeod River Wildlife Management Unit (342);
- Wildhay Wildlife Management Unit (344);
- Shiningbank Wildlife Management Unit (346);
- Coalspur Wildlife Management Unit (438);
- Solomon Wildlife Management Unit (439);
- Adams Creek Wildlife Management Unit (440). AR 184/2001 s3;325/2009