

# VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM POLICY

**FILE CODE:** ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**DEPARTMENT CODE:** AGRICULTURE SERVICES No. 63

**DATE APPROVED:** March 24, 2026

**MOTION NO.:** 134/24/03/26

**REPLACED:** 125/14/03/17



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## PHILOSOPHY

The County of Northern Lights believes in promoting weed control programs that will prevent the establishment and spread of prohibited noxious and noxious weeds within the boundaries of the County.

The County will spray up to 1 acre per year on private land containing weeds designated under the Weed Control Act in efforts to help residents control difficult weeds.

## PURPOSE

- 1.1 To administer, recognize, and minimize/eradicate the impacts caused by prohibited noxious and noxious weeds.
- 1.2 Bring education and awareness to businesses and residents within the County to minimize these impacts.
- 1.3 To minimize and or eradicate weeds from the County to reduce negative impact caused by weeds under the Weed Control Act (WCA) of Alberta.
- 1.4 Provide correct, safe and effective weed control for ratepayers.
- 1.5 Reduce reliance on Weed Notices and Enforcement as tools to control weeds, reduce staff hours to monitor and follow up with Weed Notices and Enforcement, and reduce negative applications by inexperienced residents leading to poor control and environmental harm.

## AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 Provide direction, supervision and resources to the Agricultural Fieldman for this providing this policy.
- 2.2 Provide a fleet of equipment and staff to adequately inspect the County. The County will employ an Agricultural Fieldman and adequate summer staff to inspect the County the provide control measures.

## AGRICULTURE FIELDMAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Act as liaison between the County and ratepayers to coordinate spraying of areas up to 1 acre in size on private property.
- 3.2 Obtain written or documented verbal request from ratepayers to carry out application and identify the locations to be sprayed. A suitable chemical will be used to provide proper, effective control.
- 3.3 Provide correct control measures, if time and budget permits.

## WEED INSPECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 Follow the Weed Inspection Procedures as determined by the Agricultural Fieldman.
- 4.2 Understand the Weed Control Act, in particular Part 3 Inspectors Powers and Notices.
- 4.3 Obtain written or documented verbal request from ratepayers to carry out application and identify the locations to be sprayed. A suitable chemical will be used to provide proper, effective control.
- 4.4 Provide correct control measures, if time and budget permits.

## ENFORCEMENT

- 5.1 All prohibited noxious weeds must be destroyed, and all noxious weeds must be controlled, under sections 2 and 3 of the Alberta Weed Control Act.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFESTATION

- 6.1 Landowner/Occupant will be notified of infestation and offered services to control up to 1 acre. If area is larger than 1 acre a Weed Notice may be issued to control the problem.
- 6.2 The Weed Notice to control pests may include the following restrictions: Chemical, mechanical, biological, and cultural controls.

## ATTACHMENTS/SCHEDULES/APPENDIX

	Vegetation Management Program Agreement & Weed Management Form
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## REFERENCES

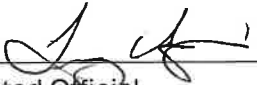
Legal Authorities	Municipal Government Act Agricultural Service Board Act County Bylaw No. 25-63-503 Weed Control Act
Related Policies	
Other	Weed Notice


## REVISION HISTORY

March 14, 2017	125/14/03/17
	Replaced Field Edge Spraying Policy

## DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION UNDER ATIA AND POPA

Classification 1. A	Public Information
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Chief Elected Official

  
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Chief Administrative Officer