



COUNTY OF NORTHERN LIGHTS

POLICY

HERBICIDE & PESTICIDE HANDLING

CREATED: 2/9/2025

REVISED:

TOTAL PAGES: 5

HERBICIDE & PESTICIDE HANDLING

Purpose

To ensure that Herbicide/Pesticide Handling and use comply with County of Northern Lights policies, safe work procedures and Alberta Government Acts and Regulations

Plan

Complete the pre-job hazard assessment with your supervisor and note any handling requirements (PPE, site conditions, rates, mixing, loading, reporting, etc.). Understand the plan and all of its requirements.

Familiarize yourself with the chemical by reading the label and SDS.

Ensure that all safety/emergency equipment and response guides are present on site. Make sure that you know their location. (Refer to Herbicide/Pesticide Storage Section)

Do

- Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke when using herbicides/pesticides.
- Wash hands thoroughly after handling or contact.
- Wear the appropriate PPE for the job and equipment you are using.
- Clean your PPE after each use.
- Filling and mixing:
 - Open containers carefully
 - Use clean water from a nurse tank to fill sprayer
 - Fill spray tank with half the required amount of water, add chemical then fill the rest of the way
 - Triple rinse empty containers and measuring devices and add rinsate to the spray solution.
 - Should be conducted in an area free from sensitive areas or water bodies
- Spraying:
 - Conduct operation to minimize adverse effects
 - Calibrate equipment properly
 - Fill out all required documentation daily
 - Do not spray within 30 m of an open body of water unless otherwise directed and observing special conditions
 - Only spray in appropriate weather conditions

Check

- Know the area that you are operating in.
- Inspect equipment & containers for damage. Respond as required
- Look ahead to make sure that:
 - the spraying plans will work
 - Environmental conditions are favorable for herbicide/pesticide application
 - Site conditions (water bodies, soil, slopes, etc.), are addressed.
- Look Behind and make sure that the work you have done is according to the plan.

Take Action

- Stop and contact your supervisor immediately if you:
 - See a site/weather condition or resource feature that is not addressed in the plan or don't believe the plan will work
 - Don't have all of the required safety/environmental equipment
 - Observe a leak or spill in the herbicide/pesticide containers or equipment



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Follow Up

- Report immediately to your supervisor if you:
 - Have done or seen something not specified in the plan or related procedures
 - See something that has potential to cause or is causing damage to the environment

HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE STORAGE

Purpose

To ensure that storage of herbicides/pesticides comply with County of Northern Lights's policies and procedures, Alberta Government Acts and Regulations, and to minimize potential for accidental releases.

Plan

- Complete the pre-work plan with your supervisor and note storage requirements (e.g., 2° containment, distance to water course).
- Ensure that all safety/emergency equipment and response guides are present. Make sure that you know their location

DO

- Sign chemical concentrates into/out of the storage facility. Return the duplicate copy to your supervisor.
- Place all concentrate containers into a 2° containment vessel (pool, garbage can, etc.) for storage at the spray site.
- Store all herbicides/pesticides at least 30m away from an open body of water

CHECK

- At minimum, each storage site will have:
 - PPE (gloves, boots, chemical suit, face mask)
 - Spill kit, First aid kit, emergency eyewash station
 - SDS and Labels for the chemicals being stored or used
 - Emergency Numbers, Response Guide, & SOP's
- Routinely inspect containment vessels for cracks or leaks
- Ensure that the plan works and the site is set up according to plan

Take Action

- Stop and contact your supervisor immediately if you:
 - See a site condition or resource feature that is not addressed in the plan or don't believe the plan will work
 - Don't have all of the required safety/environmental equipment
 - Observe a leak in the chemical containers

Follow Up

- Report immediately to your supervisor if you:
 - Have done or seen something not specified in the plan or related procedures
 - See something that has potential to cause or is causing damage to the environment



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HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE TRANSPORTATION

Purpose

To ensure the Transportation of Herbicides/Pesticides comply with County of Northern Lights's policies and procedures, Alberta Government Acts and Regulations, & to minimize the potential for accidental releases.

Plan

- Check with your supervisor to determine whether the chemical is classified as hazardous. If labeled as hazardous, check TDG regulations on the transport of the chemical.
- Become familiar with proper spill procedures in case of any incidents that may occur due to an accidental release.

Do

- Contain all chemicals by placing them into a 2° container.
- Make sure all containers are adequately secured.
- Do not allow passengers to ride on or near pesticides
- Always carry a spill kit and the proper PPE within the vehicle.
- Separate chemicals from plants, animals, food or drinks.
- Don't carry within passenger compartments of vehicles.

Check

- Ensure that containers are secured properly
- Inspect for leaks or punctures
- Make sure all work is according to the plan

Take Action

- Stop and contact your Supervisor immediately if you:
 - Believe the plan will not work
 - Observe a leak or spill

Follow Up

- Report immediately to your supervisor if you:
 - Have done or seen something that is not specified in the plan or related procedures.
 - Have a release that is beyond your capability of controlling and cleaning up.
 - See something that has that potential to cause or is causing damage to the environment

HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE FIELD EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Purpose

To ensure that all field equipment used in herbicide/pesticide operations is maintained in accordance with County of Northern Lights's policies and procedures

Plan

- Complete the pre-work plan with your supervisor and note any special conditions or issues (water bodies, sensitive areas, etc.).
- Ensure that all safety/emergency equipment needed is present

Do

- Wear the appropriate PPE



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- Maintain equipment as necessary prior to use, when changing chemicals and at the end of the season by:
 - Rinsing the inside and outside of equipment with clean water
 - Disposing of rinsate. (Refer to Herbicide/Pesticide Waste Disposal Section)
 - Cleaning filters, nozzle tips and screens; checking that all hoses, fittings, and electrical components are in working order
- In addition for Winterization of sprayers:
 - Complete another rinse using non-toxic antifreeze.
 - Drain hoses, pump and fittings in an appropriate location

Check

- Inspect equipment routinely and make repairs as necessary.
- Make sure that the plan will work and that the ground conditions and resource features are suitable
- Ensure that the work you have done is according to the plan.
- Disposal of residues do not cause any adverse effects.

Take Action

- Stop operating in the area and contact your supervisor if you:
- See a site condition or resource feature that is not identified in the plan or you believe the plan will not work
- Equipment exceeds your ability to operate or repair

Follow Up

- Report immediately to your supervisor if you:
- Have done or seen something not specified in the plan or related procedures
- See something that has potential to cause or is causing damage to the environment

HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE WASTE DISPOSAL

Purpose

To ensure that disposal of herbicide/pesticide waste comply with County of Northern Lights's policies and procedures and Alberta Government Acts and Regulations

Plan

- Complete the pre-work plan with your supervisor and note any waste disposal requirements (solution, rinsate and empty containers)
- Plan spray volume according to area to minimize rinsate and excess solution.

Do

- Adjust solution quantities as needed to minimize excess solution
- Dispose of rinsate solution by spraying it over treated areas as long as it is dilute enough that label rates are not exceeded
- Excess solution can be decanted into an appropriate, labeled container and stored at the storage facility for future use
- Triple rinse all empty concentrate containers and add rinsate to the spray solution.
- Bring empty containers to County of Northern Lights's site and place in chemical disposal bin

Check

- Know the location of the container disposal site
- Ensure that all containers are triple rinsed



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- Make sure you work is done according to the plan

Take Action

- Stop and contact your supervisor immediately if you:
 - See a site condition or resource feature that is not addressed in the plan or you believe the plan will not work

Follow Up

- Report immediately to your supervisor if you:
 - Have done or seen something not specified in the plan or related procedures
 - See something that has potential to cause or is causing damage to the environment

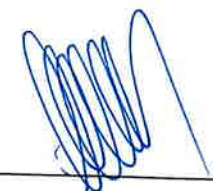
OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS – EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

- PPE
- Chemical Resistant Gloves
- Chemical Resistant Apron
- Coveralls
- Chemical Resistant Boots
- Eye Protection
- Suitable Cartridge Respirators
- First Aid Kit
- Emergency Eye Wash Station

EMERGENCY RESPONSE INFORMATION

- Current SDS and Labels for all chemicals being used or stored
- Alberta Environment's Environmental Complaint/Emergency Number
- Provincial Poison Centre Number
- Emergency Response Guide
- Applicable Standard Operating Procedures
- Spill Clean Up Materials
- Appropriate Absorbent Material
- Appropriate Neutralizing Material
- Broom or Shovel
- Containers with lids for waste material or leaking containers
- Blank labels to identify contents of waste containers


Chief Elected Official


Chief Administrative Officer