



1: Department services

1.1: Our mission

Leading the way for people and business to thrive.

1.2: Service areas

Leadership and administration

- Provides programs to residents to support agricultural production within Leduc County, with positive effects to the environment.
- Recognizes and champions the importance of agriculture for its economic, environmental and community contributions and commits to its long-term viability in the County, region and province.
- Promotes agricultural production while abiding by provincial acts regarding weeds, pests, soil conservation, livestock disease, water and the environment.
- Manages agricultural drainage to support the flow of water through Leduc County's licensed waterways.

Agricultural drainage

- Inspects and maintains existing licensed Leduc County agricultural drainage ditches and assists Leduc County agricultural producers with water-management issues utilizing the Small Acreage Drainage Program Policy.

Crop pest control

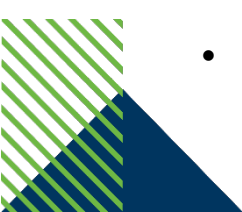
- Conducts inspections for agronomic pests to mitigate the effects of provincially declared pests, such as clubroot of canola and blackleg of canola.
- Educates growers on Leduc County's pest control policy requirements and, when necessary, enforces compliance under the provincial *Agricultural Pests Act*.

Equipment maintenance and fabrication

- Ensures that Agricultural Services equipment and facilities are maintained or replaced and in working order to effectively run programs.
- Builds and repairs office furniture, small facilities, County signs and other fabrication projects throughout the County.

Local food and horticulture

- Supports Leduc County residents by being a resource to develop and strengthen their capacities as local food producers.
- Connects with food consumers to develop more self-reliant and resilient food networks in the region.
- Hosts and supports local initiatives that increase grower and consumer awareness of local food.
- Supports social licensing initiatives to build public trust for the second largest industry in Alberta – agriculture.
- Is a conduit for information relating to horticultural pests and disease issues affecting trees and garden vegetables.



- Advocates for and supports agricultural educational opportunities for residents.

Roadside vegetation management

- Manages roadside vegetation using chemical and mechanical control techniques that target undesired vegetation.
- Ensures the safety and quality of road rights-of-way by providing clear sightlines, controlling invasive plant species, improving drainage and reducing the potential for snow traps in the winter.

Sustainable agriculture program

- Supports the adoption of beneficial management practices by agricultural producers through education and awareness.
- Supports individual producers with the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan process and when applying for Canadian Agricultural Partnership or other grants.
- Coordinates the Alternative Land Use Services Program (ALUS).

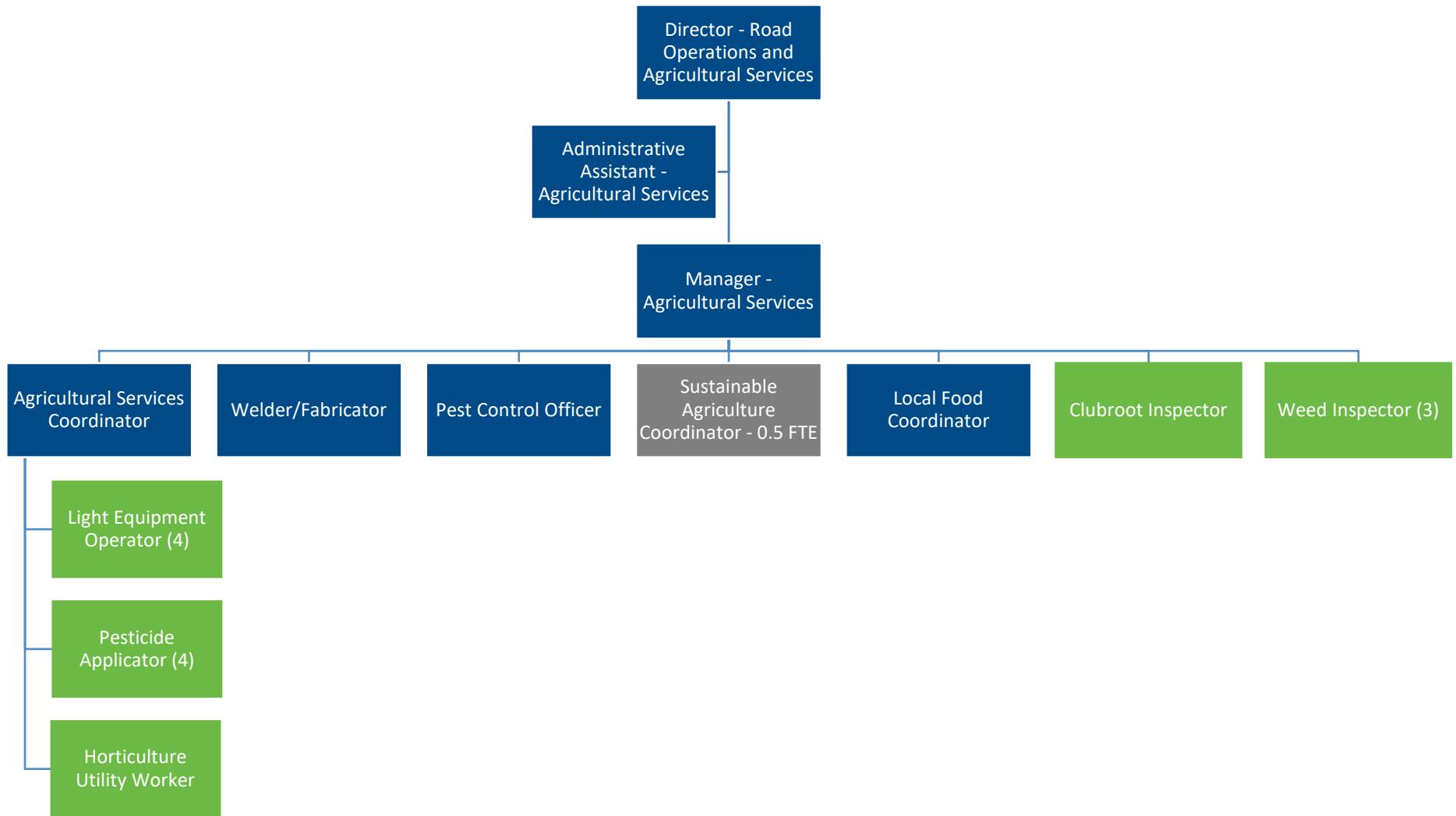
Weed control

- Achieves weed control on County-owned lands and road allowances through an integrated vegetation management program.
- Educates property owners on weed control requirements and, when necessary, enforce compliance under the provincial *Weed Control Act*.

Wild animal pest control

- Supports livestock producers by managing predatory coyotes and providing beaver control work to mitigate effects on Leduc County's infrastructure and productive agricultural lands.
- Manages the program for control of northern pocket gophers on agricultural land.

1.3: Organizational chart



2: Strategic priorities

Goal 1	Strategic priorities – Deep community connections and strong leadership Agricultural Services is committed to increasing citizen satisfaction with Leduc County’s municipal services and will incorporate actions in its operational plan in response to the feedback received in the 2023 Citizen Satisfaction Survey.
Goal 2	Strategic priority – A robust economy Capitalize on agriculture and local food production.

3: Department goals

Goal 3	Serve residents and visitors with continuous improvement of department services.
---------------	--

4: Action plan

Goal 1

Agricultural Services is committed to increasing citizen satisfaction with Leduc County’s municipal services and will incorporate actions in its operational plan in response to the feedback received in the 2023 Citizen Satisfaction Survey.

Strategy 1.1

Review current department programs and processes to gain efficiencies.

Actions	Target dates	Deliverables and/or key performance indicators
Increase stakeholder awareness of Leduc County’s weed control program.	Q1 2025	Develop a weed control and inspection communication plan to inform stakeholders on municipal expectations and landowner responsibilities.
	Q2 2025	Implement communication plan with specific stakeholder profiles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country residential properties Small holding agricultural properties Residents who have reported a weed concern
	Q3 2025	All weed related concerns and complaints that are received through Report a Concern or phone complaint are recorded and actioned, and administration to provide regular updates to the Agricultural Service Board.
Develop a procedure for identifying sightline issues and controlling brush within Leduc County right-of-ways.	Q1 2025	Develop an administrative directive between Agricultural Services and Road Operations to identify and control brush within Leduc County right-of-ways with priority being sightline safety concerns.
	Q3 2025	Identify, remove and record completion of 30 areas of brush.

Goal 2

Capitalize on agriculture and local food production.

Strategy 2.1

Evaluate Leduc County's 2019 Local Food Initiative and continue to implement local food-related initiatives in 2025 for agricultural producers to highlight their products to local and regional markets and consumers.

Actions	Target dates	Deliverables and/or key performance indicators
Complete a five-year evaluation of Leduc County's 2019 Local Food Initiative.	Q2 2025	Prepare and present report to Agricultural Service Board on the state of local agriculture in Leduc County and the successes of the first five years of the Local Food program.
	Q3 2025	Create a program overview document of the Local Food Initiative for distribution to Leduc County residents and local food stakeholders.

Goal 3

Serve residents and visitors with continual improvement of department services.

Strategy 3.1

Review and evaluate current programs.

Actions	Target dates	Deliverables and/or key performance indicators
Engage public to address areas of interest of agricultural workshops.	Q1 2025	Develop a strategy to identify topics of interest for our agricultural stakeholders.
	Q2 2025	Initiate the strategy and gather input from stakeholders through an: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online survey • Ag Matters newsletter • Feedback from workshop participant surveys
	Q4 2025	Host three workshops related to topics identified through our public engagement.
Review and refine current weed control program on municipally controlled lands to support consistent tracking and recording of herbicide application.	Q1 2025	Review current geographic information system (GIS) mapping of herbicide applications and create a revised mapping tool.
	Q2 2025	Update and implement revised GIS mapping for seasonal herbicide application activities.