

Municipal Policy

VM-03 – Fenceline Spraying

Agricultural Services

Vegetation Management

Policy statement

Leduc County will act in accordance with its legislated responsibilities under the Province of Alberta *Weed Control Act* and provide a program to assist Leduc County property owners in control of prohibited noxious weeds and noxious weeds along private fencelines/headlands adjacent to municipal roads at no fee for service.

Definitions

Noxious weed means a plant designated in accordance with the Province of Alberta Weed Control Act and Weed Control Regulation as a noxious weed and includes the plant's seeds. A plant designated as a noxious weed may be present within Alberta but not in abundant numbers and has the potential to cause significant yield losses to agricultural crops.

Prohibited noxious weed means a plant designated in accordance with the Province of Alberta Weed Control Act and Weed Control Regulation as a prohibited noxious weed and includes its seeds. A plant designated as a prohibited noxious weed is generally not found in Alberta, or is found in small numbers but has a high potential threat of invasion or is potentially harmful in some fashion to livestock or people.

Integrated vegetation management means a systematic decision-making process that uses multiple methods of control to prevent unwanted plant species from becoming a problem.

Property owner means the person responsible for a property who

- is the legal owner of it,
- has lawful possession of it, or
- has the right to exercise control over it.

Policy authority

Legislative implications:

- Province of Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, RSA 2000
- Province of Alberta Weed Control Act and Weed Control Regulation
- Alberta Environment Pesticide Service Registration Industrial Approval
- Pest Management Regulatory Agency Health Canada under the Pest Control Products Act Standards
- Province of Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA 2000

Policy standards

- 1. Control the spread of prohibited noxious weeds and noxious weeds in difficult to manage areas on private property adjacent to Leduc County road right-of-ways as conditions permit, with written permission by the property owner.
- 2. Carry out responsible herbicide application according to product label and by exclusively using selective herbicides registered through the Pest Management Regulatory Agency Health Canada under the *Canada Pest Control Products Act*.
- 3. Herbicide applications will be performed only by pesticide applicators who have been trained in accordance with the Province of Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulation.

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Policy responsibilities

Council responsibilities:

Council will,

- Approve the Fenceline Spraying Policy
- Approve budget annually

Administration responsibilities:

Administration will,

- Ensure compliance with all current legislated requirements and municipal policies.
- Implement and maintain procedures to ensure that all vegetation management operations will be undertaken in accordance with an integrated vegetation management program and established safe work practices.
- Provide training to employees to apply herbicides as specified under the Province of Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulation.
- Educate property owners on noxious and prohibited noxious weeds and identify areas that qualify for the Fenceline Spraying Program.

Monitoring and updating

- This policy will be posted on Leduc County's website.
- This policy will be reviewed at least once every four years.