

Clearing of Undeveloped Road Allowance Policy

4A.008

Section: 4.0 Infrastructure Services
- A. Roads

Authority: Council

Statement

The Municipal District of Bonnyville (M.D.) will not allow the removal of trees on undeveloped road allowances for the purpose of commercial tree harvesting, agricultural, or industrial pursuits unless required for road construction.

Purpose

To preserve undeveloped road allowances in their natural state, control wind and water erosion, and limit the ability of vehicle access.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

- (1) “The Person” means the person who has requested the clearing of brush and other debris from the undeveloped road allowance.

Procedure

- (1) Prior to granting approval for clearing a road allowance, Administration shall consult the local Councillor and adjacent landowners to determine if any local concerns would affect the decision.
- (2) The Person shall be responsible for all costs incurred in the clearing and brush disposal project including proper signage (construction ahead, men working and such).
- (3) All surface disturbances shall be kept to a minimum with appropriate measures taken to control wind and water erosion.
- (4) All trees shall be salvaged or removed and disposed of by burning and other methods approved by the Council. Merchantable timber shall be considered the property of Alberta Environmental and shall not be harvested without prior approval.
- (5) All debris from the person’s equipment and facilities shall be removed from the site and all solid materials shall be either removed, or when necessary, buried with a minimum of 40 inches of soil cover.
- (6) The disturbed area shall be re-contoured to conform to the surrounding topography.
- (7) Top soil and root zone material should be spread evenly over the entire area after it is sufficiently settled.

Date Adopted: May 7, 1998

Resolution No: 98.311

Date Amended₍₀₁₎: November 28, 2012

Resolution No: 12.501

Date Reviewed₍₀₁₎: June 21, 2017

Resolution No: 17.216

- (8) Should the Person request road upgrading of the undeveloped road allowance, they shall be responsible for the cost of the road upgrading. The road shall be constructed to M.D. standards.
- (9) The Person shall cut trees and brush, remove all roots and remove, pile and burn all trees (except trees to be preserved), brush, stumps, logs and roots within the limits of the right-of-way, and also from such areas as may be required for off take ditches, channel changes, easements, borrow pits, etc., as directed by the M.D. All underbrush and down trees protruding into the right-of-way are to be disposed of in the same manner. Timber, brush, stumps, logs or roots shall not be piled upon adjacent lands, and the limits of the right-of-way shall be left in proper condition for fencing. All tree branches extending into the right-of-way, which hang within six (6) metres of the ground, shall be cut off close to the trunk in a neat and workmanlike manner.
- (10) If ordered by the M.D., certain trees within the right-of-way shall be preserved. Underbrush, down timber, snags and roots shall be removed from the vicinity of such preserved trees to a clear space within the right-of-way, and there burned.
- (11) The Person shall be solely responsible for ensuring all fires are totally extinguished. If a fire results from an improperly extinguished fire, the person may be held responsible for the damage.
- (12) The Person shall be responsible for the costs and construction of replacing existing fences and providing new fences where required by the M.D.

Policy Review

Within five (5) years from date adopted / amended / reviewed.

For administrative use only:

Previous Policy Number: (prior to July 24, 2019)	30.34.03
Related Documentation: (plans, bylaws, policies, procedures, etc.)	

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