

Weed and Brush Control Policy

5A.011

Section: 5.0 Environmental and Protective Services
- A. Agricultural Services

Authority: General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services

Statement

The Municipal District of Bonnyville (M.D.) will ensure the removal, control, or suppression of noxious weeds and brush re-growth.

Purpose

The removal and control of brush and the removal, control, and suppression of certain weeds will assist the M.D. in ensuring good visibility along municipal roads, thus promoting the protection of agricultural lands and enhancing the aesthetics of the general area to which it administers.

Procedure

The General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or designate will develop procedures to identify areas of concern that require maintenance and outline when and how the work will be completed. These areas will include but not be limited to roadside ditches, residential areas, and industrial areas.

(1) Roadside Spraying

The General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or designate will evaluate areas requiring weed and brush control and determine the most appropriate method of control.

(a) In the case of herbicide use:

- (i) Notice of commencement of the spraying operation will be advertised in local newspapers.
- (ii) Landowners, organic farmers, and any other persons who refuse to allow spraying of ditches along their property for any reason, must agree to sign a M.D. drafted agreement accepting responsibility for the control of weeds and brush in the road right(s)-of-way, at their own expense. The work must be completed by July 15th of the same year. In the case where this deadline is not met, the M.D. can step in and do the required work using whatever means deemed necessary. The agreement will be renewed annually by all applicable parties.
- (iii) Road right(s)-of-way cannot be used as the 25-foot required buffer between organic crops and the land where pesticides are used.

(2) Roadside Mowing

The General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or designate will ensure roadside mowing in residential and lakeshore subdivisions and along municipal roads occurs. Priority areas to be mowed will be areas where herbicides are deemed not to be acceptable. These areas include but are not limited to gardens, shelterbelts, sensitive crops, and roads with high traffic volume.

(3) Industrial Sites

The General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services or designate will ensure a minimum of a one (1) time yearly schedule for inspections of industrial sites to identify the presence of prohibited or noxious weeds. When these weeds are present, they will be removed, controlled or suppressed by the method deemed most suitable by the General Manager of Environmental and Protective Services.

- (a) Non-compliance of a weed notice may result in fees that will be billed back to the landowner to cover the costs associated with the M.D. controlling the weed infestation. Additionally, a \$500.00 administration fee will be applied. If the bill is unpaid, these charges will be applied to the landowner's tax roll.

Policy Review

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

For administrative use only:

Previous Policy Number: (prior to July 24, 2019)	60.63.11
Related Documentation: (plans, bylaws, policies, procedures, etc.)	