

<p>MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL</p> <p>Vegetation Control on Municipally Owned Land</p>	<p>Function: Policy No. Effective Date: Supercedes: Amends:</p>	<p>Agriculture Services ASB.18 November 18, 2020 December 16, 2010</p>
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Policy Statement

The Agricultural Services Department will employ certified herbicide applicators and authorized assistants to apply registered herbicides within the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 as per the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Pest Control Products Act.

All roadside rights of ways, and municipal lands may be subject to herbicide application. Each year an advertisement shall be posted in the newsletter, on the Municipal District's website, and on all the Municipal District's social media prior to herbicide application to inform the public. Ratepayers may enter a "Roadside Vegetation Control Agreement" with the Municipal District Agricultural Services Department whereby no herbicides will be applied to the roadsides adjacent to lands under their control. The ratepayers who enter into this agreement must fill out an agreement yearly and they must control noxious weeds and brush and destroy prohibited noxious weeds on the roadside adjacent to lands under this Agreement. Should Noxious weeds, problematic brush, or Prohibited Noxious weeds be found on roadsides under agreement, the Agriculture Services Department will give participants in the program five days to control or eradicate the vegetation. If not controlled or eradicated in that time, the Agriculture Services Department will take control action as the Agricultural Fieldman sees fit.

Guidelines:

1. Weed infestations take priority over brush control.
2. Any brush over 6ft or 2M in height shall be cut mechanically prior to any herbicides being applied to the regrowth.
3. Herbicides are to be applied safely using the most recent herbicide label. All requirements of the label will be adhered to.
4. The Municipal District may apply herbicides up to and into the edge of crops, pasture, and hay that is growing on a municipal right of way.
5. The herbicide applicator shall utilize proper discretion and if unsafe conditions arise, herbicide applications are to immediately cease.
 - 5.1. Examples of unsafe conditions are
 - 5.1.1. Winds in excess of 16 km/hr
 - 5.1.2. Visible drifts occurring
 - 5.1.3. Other conditions that pose safety or environmental risk
6. Confrontations with members of the public shall be avoided. The herbicide applicator shall report all complaints to the Agricultural Fieldman for investigation.
7. Herbicides will not be applied:
 - 7.1. To any areas for which a "Roadside Vegetation Control Agreement" has been entered;
 - 7.2. On roadsides within 30 m of residential areas, dugouts, and shelterbelts. In the event these areas are infested with Noxious or Prohibited Noxious weeds, the applicator will ask permission from the occupant adjacent to the right of way to handgun or backpack spray the

infestation. Persons wishing to exempt themselves from spraying shall enter into a "Roadside Vegetation Control Agreement".

- 7.3. If a place of residence, dugout, or shelterbelt is greater than 30m from the right of way, boom application is permitted.
8. The Agricultural Fieldman shall be informed of any situation arising which any employee feels compromises his, or other staff or the environment's safety.
9. Beekeepers who express concern over the use of herbicides near their hives will be treated as follows:
 - 9.1. They will be requested to enter a "Roadside Vegetation Control Agreement" and will be asked to provide a map(s) of the area(s) where the beehives are located.
 - 9.2. The Municipal District will use herbicides with the lowest risk to bees where possible
 - 9.3. If possible, spraying or spot spraying will be performed during times when bees are less active.
10. Pesticide containers are to be dealt with according to the Alberta Environment recommendations and disposed of at a pesticide container disposal site.
11. Safety equipment, coveralls, eye-protection, and breathing apparatus shall be provided for staff by the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133. The applicator shall be responsible for ensuring that proper protective equipment is used according to product labels and that it is kept and maintained in an acceptable manner.
12. Pesticide applicator certificates and Authorized Assistant Training Records shall be kept up to date.
13. Records of daily conditions, herbicide usage, areas covered problems which arise, and work accomplished shall be kept. Daily records shall be submitted to the Agricultural Fieldman at the end of each application day. The Agricultural Fieldman shall review the herbicide application reports and provide updates on the Herbicide Application Program to the Agriculture Service Board.