

SER-001-006

## Strathcona County Municipal Policy Handbook

# Rural Roadside Vegetation Control Program

Date of approval by Council: 04/30/91; 04/08/97  
05/09/00; 03/19/02

Resolution No: 359/91;182/97  
290/2000; 150/2002

Lead Role: Chief Commissioner

Replaces: n/a

Last Review date: September 2006

Next Review Date: 09/2009

Administrative Responsibility: Transportation & Agriculture Services

Special Notes: Cross Reference with Policy SER-009-028

## Policy Statement

Strathcona County shall establish programs, guidelines and formal procedures to control noxious weeds and brush on rural road rights-of-way. For the purposes of this policy, only brush two metres or less in height will be controlled with herbicides.

## Definitions:

Broadcast Application Zone:	area of municipality where herbicide application covers the entire roadside ditch.
Brush:	shall consist of all woody vegetation two metres or less in height.
Landowners:	in the case of land, a person who is registered under the Land Title Act.
Occupant:	is a person occupying or exercising control or having the right to occupy or exercise control over land.
Rural Road Right-of-Way:	shall include range and township roads within the municipality and includes internal road systems within Country Residential subdivisions.

## Guidelines:

In accordance with the provisions of the Weed Control Act, RSA 2000, c. W-5, as amended or replaced from time to time, Strathcona County shall meet its obligations to control noxious weeds and brush on rural road rights-of-way. Strathcona County shall provide a mechanism to promote awareness of and to solicit input from Landowners and Occupants adjacent to Rural Road Rights-of-way into the Rural Roadside Vegetation Control program through a comprehensive program of public education and notification and through a formal operating procedure as outlined in the Agriculture Services Rural Roadside Vegetation Control Program Quality Management System.

**Responsibilities:**

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**1. PUBLIC EDUCATION/NOTIFICATION:**

The Agriculture Services Branch of the Transportation & Agriculture Services Department shall conduct an awareness program and shall provide to Landowners and Occupants Notification of intent to apply herbicides as follows:

- (a) Advertising in the local paper the final two weeks of April.
- (b) Advertisement in the Agricultural Service Board newsletter.
- (c) Form letter and survey form mailed to those Landowners within the Broadcast Application Zone for the purpose of informing residents of the proposed program, deadline return date for survey and gathering information relative to areas sensitive to herbicides, human health concerns, etc.
- (d) Hold an open house.

**2. AGRICULTURE SERVICES QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The Agriculture Services Branch of the Transportation & Agriculture Services Department has developed a Quality Management System for the Rural Roadside Vegetation Control Program. This system ensures that the quality standards that have been established are met and reviewed.

The Agriculture Services Branch of the Transportation & Agriculture Services Department shall conduct the Rural Roadside Vegetation Control Program in accordance with the following quality system sections:

- (a) Safety - outlines the procedures to follow necessary to obtain safe application of herbicides.
- (b) External Communications - outlines the appropriate steps needed to correctly deal with and notify residents affected by the program.
- (c) Spraying Control - outlines the procedures for obtaining approvals, communication of program, mapping and marking of buffer zones, Landowner Option program, and the proper application techniques needed to apply herbicide in a safe and effective method.
- (d) Spraying Inspections - outlines steps to be taken for pre, during, and post inspections to ensure that the herbicide application is occurring within the scope of the Quality System Management directives.
- (e) Non Conformance Control - outlines steps and procedures involved in handling and correcting non conformances to the program.