

## Weed and Pest Control

**References:**      *Agricultural Pests Act*, RSA 2000, c A-8  
                          *Animal Health Act*, RSA 2007, c. A-40.2  
                          *Fisheries (Alberta) Act*, RSA 2000, c. F-16  
                          *Weed Control Act*, SA 2008, c. W-5  
                          *Wildlife Act*, RSA 2000, c. W-10

### Policy Statement

The control of Weeds, Pests and Problem Species are a shared responsibility between Landowners, the Province of Alberta and Strathcona County. Strathcona County's Weed and Pest Control Policy ensures that the prevention, control, and/or destruction of Weeds, Pests, and Problem Species specified in this policy, is undertaken as effectively and efficiently as possible with due consideration of human safety and municipal liabilities.

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the awareness, monitoring, emergent issues, and enforcement programs to meet Strathcona County's legislated responsibilities associated with Weeds, Pests, and Problem Species.

### Definitions

**Act** – means the *Weed Control Act*, SA 2008, c. W-5, *Agricultural Pests Act*, RSA 2000, c A-8, *Fisheries (Alberta) Act*, RSA 2000, c. F-16, *Animal Health Act*, RSA 2007, c. A-40.2 and/or *Wildlife Act*, RSA 2000, c. W-10, as amended from time to time by the Province of Alberta.

**Debt Recovery Notice** – means an invoice for control services rendered by the County for non-compliance with a Notice.

**Landowner** – means the registered owner under the *Land Titles Act* RSA 2000, c. L-4, as the owner of the land.

**Notice** – means a Local Authority's Notice, Inspector's Notice, and/or Notice to Control Pests under an Act.

**Owner** – a person who is in lawful possession of or who has the right to exercise control over a weed, pest or problem species.

**Pest** – means a pest as defined by an Act.

**Problem Species** – means any species that is defined in an Act which is destroying or harming or is likely to destroy or harm any land, animal, tree, person or property in Strathcona County.

**Weed** – means a plant species as defined under an Act.

## **Guidelines**

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Administration will work within the following guidelines:

- An extension/education program will be provided to Landowners, occupants and Owners to build awareness and knowledge of the importance of controlling Weeds, Pests, and Problem Species.
- Strathcona County will proactively inspect public and private properties as outlined in an Act and will respond to complaints in a timely manner.
- Notices will be issued under the authority provided in an Act.
- Multiple tools may be used to gain compliance with Notices. Tools will be selected based on close assessment of the situation.
- An appeal process, if required or permitted in an Act, will be provided for Notices and Debt Recovery Notices.
- The Agricultural Service Board will serve as the appeal panel for the purpose of any appeals.
- The Debt Recovery Notice, if not paid within 30 days, will be transferred to the property tax roll.

## **Policy Record**

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**Date of Approval by Council:** Month XX, 2018

**Resolution No:** 2018/XX

**Next Review Date:** September 11, 2021

**Policy No:** SER-001-034

**Last Review Date:** September 11, 2018

**Replaces:** SER-001-004, SER-001-009, SER-001-028

**Administrative Review:** Transportation and Agriculture Services