



No Spray Program

Agriculture Services
Policy D5

Policy:	D5 – No Spray Program
Policy Department(s):	Agriculture Services
Adoption Date:	N/A
Adoption Reference:	N/A
Effective Date:	N/A
Last Amended:	August 22, 2022

Policy Purpose

To allow County of Grande Prairie ratepayers the opportunity to exempt roadsides adjacent to their land from herbicide spraying by the County while ensuring Noxious and Prohibited Noxious Weeds are controlled or eradicated, and brush control on roadsides is maintained.

Policy Statement

The County has a legislated responsibility under the Alberta Weed Control Act to eradicate prohibited noxious weeds and control noxious weeds on lands managed or controlled by the County as designated under the Act.

Definitions

“Control” means to inhibit the growth or spread of noxious weeds.

“County” means the municipality of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 having jurisdiction under the Municipal Government Act and other applicable legislation.

“Eradicate” means to kill all growing parts of a prohibited noxious weed and to render reproductive mechanisms non-viable.

“Herbicide” means an agent used to destroy or inhibit plant growth.

“Noxious Weeds” means a plant designated in accordance with the Alberta Weed Control Act regulations as a noxious weed and includes the plant’s seeds.

“Prohibited Noxious Weeds” means a plant designated in accordance with the Alberta Weed Control Act regulations as a prohibited noxious weed and includes the plant’s seeds

“Right-of-Way” means a general term referring to land between property lines the part of the public road which includes shoulders and ditches.

“Spot spray” means only the areas with Noxious/Prohibited Noxious weeds are targeted with a herbicide.



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Policy Guidelines

1. All roadsides where noxious or prohibited noxious weeds and brush are present are subject to Herbicide spot spraying.
2. Persons wishing to exempt roadside ditches adjacent to their property are required to complete a No Spray Agreement and agree to carry out an effective weed and brush control plan.
3. The Agricultural Fieldman will review all applications for completeness and accuracy.
4. The Agricultural Fieldman will sign and return one copy of the No Spray Agreement to the participant, and that shall constitute acceptance into the Program.
5. The “No Spray Agreement” must be entered into and will state that:
 - 5.1 The agreement must be updated by the registered landowner yearly to ensure effectiveness.
 - 5.2 Lessees must submit a copy of the No Spray Agreement signed by the landowner to ensure leased lands are covered under their No Spray Agreement. If the lease is for a period of years, one copy will be sufficient, and the No Spray Agreement will only have to be updated by the landowner once the lease expires or is renewed. If no copy of the lease agreement is submitted, this clause does not apply. The No Spray Agreement is valid only in the year that it is signed and expires on December 31st of each year.
 - 5.3 Noxious/Prohibited Noxious Weed and brush control to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Fieldman is the landowner’s responsibility.
 - 5.4 Should brush or Noxious/Prohibited Noxious Weeds be found on roadsides covered by the agreement, participants of this program will be given five days to control/eradicate the weeds and brush.
 - 5.6 If not controlled to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Fieldman, the Agriculture department will control the weeds and brush as the Agricultural Fieldman sees fit and no exemption will be allowed the following year.
 - 5.7 Should brush or Noxious/Prohibited Noxious Weeds be found on roadsides covered by the agreement a second time, regardless if they were successfully addressed the first time, the No Spray Agreement becomes null and void and no exemption will be allowed the following year.
 - 5.8 Municipal Right-of-Ways shall in no way substitute for buffer zones for sensitive areas, or lands certified for Organic production.
 - 5.9 Home-made No Spray signs will not be considered valid. The County will supply and install two No Spray signs for each exempted area, removing them in the fall. The signs remain the property of the County.



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6. The No Spray Agreement must be filled out completely, and no alterations to the agreement will be accepted.

Attachments

Schedule A – No Spray Agreement

References

Legal Authorities	Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26 Weed Control Act (2010) Weed Control Regulation (2010)
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	Policy B1 – Policy Development Policy D3 – Weed Control on County Property and Roadside Right-of-Ways Policy D4 – Brush Control Along County Roadside Right-of-Ways
Other	No Spray Procedure

Revision History

Review Date	Description
August 22, 2022	Reviewed and Amended – CM20220822.010
July 27, 2016	Reviewed and Amended - CAO Approval Form
April 2, 2012	Reviewed and Amended CM-04-297-12
N/A	Adoption Date



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Schedule A – No Spray Agreement

County of Grande Prairie No. 1**Roadside Noxious / Prohibited Noxious Weed and Brush Control Program****NO SPRAY AGREEMENT**

Due April 15, annually. Late applications will be subject to a \$25 administration fee.

I/We, the undersigned, hereby request that the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 refrain from the application of herbicides by the lands noted, which I/We own.

I/We hereby:

- Acknowledge and accept my/our duty to maintain that portion of the municipal roadway that lies between the boundary of my/our property and the centerline of the roadway, ensuring that it remains free of all Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds, and brush and/or tall vegetation (e.g., Sweet Clover) which may interfere with motorist sightlines. I/we acknowledge my/our duty to ensure that at all times:
 - a. Noxious weeds are prevented from flowering
 - b. Prohibited noxious weeds are completely destroyed (all parts of the plant)
 - c. brush and tall vegetation will be controlled
- Understand that if the weed and brush control is not implemented to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Fieldman for the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, registered participants in this program will be given five days to control the weeds and brush. If not controlled to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Fieldman, the Agricultural department will control the weeds and brush as the Agricultural Fieldman sees fit, and future exemptions may not be considered in subsequent years. Control methods may include the use of herbicides. No Spray areas will be inspected each year to ensure compliance with this agreement.
- Agree that this Agreement becomes null and void if any noxious or prohibited noxious weeds described by the Weed Control Act of Alberta, or any brush are found a second time in any areas covered under this agreement.
- Understand and agree that only the registered landowner may apply for No Spray Agreement on their property. If I/we lease/rent land, we hereby agree that it is our yearly responsibility to obtain the landowners permission and signature to participate in this program.
- Understand and agree that municipality right of ways shall in no way substitute for buffer zones for sensitive areas or vegetation designated for Organic Production.
- Understand and acknowledge that the No Spray Agreement is valid in the year it is signed, expiring December 31st of each year. All registrants must renew No Spray Agreements annually, and agreements must be received in the County office no later than April 15th of each year to be considered a participant in the County No Spray Program. I/We understand that failure to renew the No Spray Agreement and declare intent to continue participation in the program prior to the April 15th deadline will result my/our area being removed from the No Spray Program.

- Agree not to disturb the soil found in any part of the road right of way.
- Agree to indemnify and hold harmless the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 and all the Crown in Right of the Province of Alberta, their agents and employees, from any claims, demands, actions, and costs that may arise as a result of an act or omission in regard to this exemption.
- Understand that the County will supply no spray signs for each exempted area. Signs will be posted each spring by the Agriculture Department according to the diagram on the next page and will be recovered in the fall of each year. No spray signs remain the property of the County of Grande Prairie No.1 and must be returned in the event I/we are no longer a participant in the program.
- Understand and acknowledge that home-made No Spray signs will not be considered valid.
- Understand that no alterations to this form will be accepted.

Please indicate the method you intend to use to control any noxious or prohibited noxious weeds:

- ☐ mowing
☐ hand picking
☐ other (please describe) _____

Please indicate the method you intend to use to control any brush/tall vegetation:

- ☐ mowing
☐ slash and pile
☐ other (please describe) _____

The following plants are designated as Prohibited Noxious weeds in Alberta (complete eradication required):

Highlighted plants indicate those found in the County of Grande Prairie No. 1

Autumn Olive	Himalayan Balsam	Common Barberry	Red Bartsia
Common Buckthorn	Sulphur Cinquefoil	Common Crupina	Dyer's Woad
Eurasian Water Millfoil	Flowering Rush	Garlic Mustard	Jointed Goatgrass
Meadow Hawkweed	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	Orange Hawkweed	Hoary Alyssum
Giant Hogweed	Pale Yellow Iris	Bighead Knapweed	Black Knapweed
Brown Knapweed	Diffuse Knapweed	Hybrid Knapweed	Meadow Knapweed
Russian Knapweed	Spotted Knapweed	Squarrose Knapweed	Tyrol Knapweed
Giant Knotweed	Hybrid Japanese	Japanese Knotweed	Purple Loosestrife
Medusahead	Yellow Nutsedge	Puncturevine	Tansy Ragwort
Rush Skeletonweed	Common St. John's Wort	Saltcedar	Saltlover
Yellow Star Thistle	Smallflower Tamarisk	Chinese Tamarisk	Marsh Thistle
Nodding Thistle	Plumeless Thistle		

The following plants are designated as Noxious in the Province of Alberta (control so cannot spread, reproduce/set seed, and/or destroy):

Highlighted plants indicate those found in the County of Grande Prairie No. 1

Blueweed	Common Baby's Breath	Downey Brome	Japanese brome
Field Bindweed	Scentless Chamomile	Creeping Bellflower	Tall Buttercup
White Cockle	Heart-podded Hoary Cress	Ox-Eye Daisy	Dame's Rocket
Black Henbane	Globe-podded Hoary	Common Mullein	Hound's Tongue
Field Scabious	Lens-podded Hoary Cress	Perennial Sowthistle	Leafy Spurge
Common Tansy	Broad-leaved Pepper-	Canada Thistle	Dalmation Toadflax
Great Burdock	Lesser Burdock	Woolly Burdock	Yellow Clematis
Yellow Toadflax			

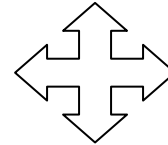
Please provide the land location of owned lands that you would like covered by this agreement, provide a separate page if more space is required. Rented/leased land requires a separate form signed by the landowner.

If you rent / lease the land you are farming:

- ☐ I have attached the forms signed by the landowner for any leased / rented land that I operate.

If the no spray area is less than the entire roadside along your lands, then please specify below which areas are not to be sprayed. (Please denote entrances, buildings, dugouts, shelterbelts and other landmarks) Please include in your diagram roads adjacent to your property as well as where you would like the no spray signs to be placed.

N



Check this box
☐ if diagram is
 the same as last
 year. (A new
 diagram is not
 required)

 Name

 Phone Number

 Mailing Address

 Rural Address

 Email

☐ I would like to receive my No Spray Agreement via email next year.

Completed Forms can be submitted via the following methods:

- email to: nospray@countygp.ab.ca
- mail to: Agriculture Department, 10001 - 84th Ave., Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2
- fax: 780-567-5589

Extra forms can be obtained by emailing nospray@countygp.ab.ca or by going to the County website and searching: No Spray Agreement Program.

I/We hereby agree to be bound by the preceding agreement to cover the lands designated in this agreement that are owned by Me/Us:

Landowner Signature

Date

Witness

Date

Please ensure you have completed all portions of this form. Failure to do so will result in this form being returned to you for completion.

This agreement has been reviewed and accepted by the County of Grande Prairie No. 1:

Agricultural Fieldman

Date