



Clear Hills County

Effective Date: June 27, 2023	Policy Number 6304
Title: ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONTROL	

1. Policy Statement

- *Clear Hills County strives to maintain roadsides that have a high level of visibility, support adequate drainage, prevent weeds from spreading and are aesthetically acceptable.*

2. Definitions

- *Roadside - that portion of the road allowance that extends from the edge of the driving surface to the adjacent property line.*

3. Purpose

- *To provide direction to administration for the control of roadside vegetation in an environmentally safe, publicly acceptable and cost effective manner.*

4. Responsibilities

a. Brushing

Public Works Manager will:

- Provide council with an annual project plan to remove all brush from County roadsides.
- Contract and/or operate equipment for clearing and mulching of trees and brush.
- Provide follow up inspections to ensure roads and roadsides are clear of brushing debris, stumps and mounds.
- Obtain any necessary warranty work from contractors following the
- inspection of the completed job.
- Seed suitable pasture seed mix, as required, to prevent erosion and weed.

- vii. competition.
- viii. Notify in writing landowners with property adjacent to the roadsides.
- ix. included in the annual brushing program plan prior to work commencing.

The County will:

- x. provide a Brushing Request agreement (Form B) to landowners, whereby:
- xi. The landowner agrees to allow the municipality to enter their land to brush outwards into the road ditches.
- xii. When landowners are requesting private land brushing or have brushed approximately 5 meters beyond the right of way and the brushing extends onto private land adjacent to road ditches, the vegetation will be controlled by spraying or mowing to control regrowth of brush and included as part of the agreement.
- xiii. The County will be responsible for all surveying costs and staking of the work area which extends approximately 5 meters beyond the right of way.

b. Do Not Brush Backslope program

- i. The Do Not Brush Backslope program is available for persons who want to retain the trees and brush on the backslope of the road allowance in front of their residence.
- ii. Landowners must request in writing for the County Brushing Program to leave the trees and brush on the backslope of the road allowance in front of their residence.

c. Spraying

- i. The program will focus on brush control to prevent regrowth and vegetation as listed in the Weed Control Act of Alberta and/or plants designated by County by-law and are the same as the Agricultural Service Board expects the public to control.
- ii. Spraying will not occur adjacent to yard sites or known herbicide sensitive vegetation such as gardens or shelterbelts or within the legislated setback from water bodies and water sources.

- iii. Agricultural Fieldman will:
- iv. Contract for and/or apply herbicide to kill brush regrowth in the year following the brushing program.
- v. Contractor for and/or apply herbicide to Noxious & Prohibited Noxious weeds to prevent weed spread & weed seed propagation.
- vi. Select herbicide based on the following criteria:
 - 1. Registered for use in Alberta
 - 2. Registered for control of the target vegetation
 - 3. Cost effectiveness
 - 4. Suitability for site, application conditions and will not increase environmental footprint

d. Do Not Spray Program:

- i. The Do Not Spray program is available for persons who do not want the roadside adjacent to their property sprayed.
- ii. Landowners must complete and sign a Roadside Spraying form (Form A) stating that they do not wish to have the road allowance adjacent to specific land locations sprayed,
- iii. Landowners accept full responsibility for weed and brush control within the stated road allowance.
- iv. Failure to control the weeds and brush in the current growing season will result in the County controlling the weeds and brush in accordance with this policy.

e. Mowing

- i. Mowing operations will rotate throughout the County on an annual basis, as per the project plan approved by council, to ensure all roads are maintained as efficiently as possible.
- ii. Agricultural Fieldman will:
- iii. Provide council with an annual project plan to mow County owned roadside ditches.
- iv. Contract and/or operate equipment to mow County owned roadside ditches.

f. Mowing for Community Organizations

- i. Clear Hills County offers to mow outfields and large grassed-in areas that are beyond the reasonable scope of riding and push lawn mowers for community not-for-profit organizations within the County, once annually in conjunction with the roadside mowing program.
- ii. Organizations requesting this service are required to sign a waiver annually protecting Clear Hills County, see attachment Form C.
- iii. Mowing of outfields and large grassed in areas that are beyond the reasonable scope of riding and push lawn mowers shall be completed subject to the conditions set out in Form C. In the event that the Agricultural Fieldman or his representative determines that the area requested is too hazardous difficult to mow the Organization will be notified that the area cannot be mowed.

g. Alternative Weed Control Methods

- i. In Environmentally sensitive areas due to soil structure, native species sensitivity or where legislated setback from water bodies and water sources prevent the application of herbicides, mowing or brushing, Agricultural Services staff will implement alternative weed control methods such as hand picking or use of biological controls.

5. Fencing

Replacement fences will be constructed to the standard currently in place as per Fencing Policy 3206.

6. Reference to Legislation

Weed Control Act

7. Related Policies

- *Property Line Spraying Policy 6309*
- *Policy 3206 Fencing*
- *Current Bylaw - Schedule of Fees - Purchase of goods and services*

8. End of Policy

ADOPTED:

Resolution C262 (03/29/11)

DATE:

March 29, 2011

AMENDED:

Resolution C408 (05/10/11)

Resolution C445 (07/23/13)

Resolution C190-14 (03/25/14)

Resolution C231-15 (04/28/15)

Resolution C466-16 (08/17/16)

Resolution C010-22 (01-11-22)

Resolution C359-23 (06-27-23)

DATE:

May 10, 2011

June 23, 2013

March 25, 2014

April 28, 2015

August 17, 2016

January 11, 2022

June 27, 2023

ROADSIDE SPRAYING

**Attention
Clear Hills County
Residents/Ratepayers**

The Agricultural Service Board of Clear Hills County will be carrying out a roadside spraying program for weed & brush control during the months of May through September. The spraying will be conducted by Agricultural Service Board staff and/or by private contractor hired by the Agricultural Service Board.

Spraying will not occur adjacent to yard sites, or known herbicide sensitive vegetation (i.e. gardens, shelterbelts) or within the legislated setbacks from water bodies and water sources.

Persons who do not want their roadside sprayed adjacent to their property must complete and sign the attached form below, and return it to the County Office in Worsley by _____, 20___. No telephone requests will be accepted.

Upon requesting no spraying, the landowner shall be responsible for weed and brush control within the road allowance adjacent to his or her property for the year as signed. In addition, upon the completed form being received by the office, signs will be mailed and those persons will be responsible for posting them where roadside spraying is not wanted.

This request is for one year duration only.



To: Clear Hills County
Box 240
WORSLEY, Alberta
T0H 3W0

- ✓ I do not wish the road allowance adjacent to my property(ies), as described below, sprayed during the 2023 season,
- ✓ I accept the full responsibility of weed and brush control within the road allowance for the 2023 season, and all costs associated with the control, if control is warranted by Clear Hills County.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Land Location(s): Qtr. _____ Sec. _____ TWP _____ Range _____ W6M

(Landowner/Renter) _____ Signature: _____

Witness _____ Signature: _____

Form B - Policy 6304

PROPERTY BRUSHING REQUEST

Clear Hills County

I/We, the undersigned, hereby authorize the staff or agents of Clear Hills County to enter the listed locations on their land for brush control along the road allowance boundary and into my private land.

I/We understand:

- the County will attempt to keep brushing machinery no further than 5 meters (16.5 feet) onto private land.
- The County will continually control regrowth by means of spray and/or mechanical methods.

I/We agree:

- to authorize Clear Hills County Staff to carry out vegetation control by means of mowing or spraying up to 5 meters (16.5 feet) beyond the right of way.
- that this agreement remain in effect for 1 year from date of signing, or until cancelled, in writing, by the undersigned or by the County,
- to notify the County of changes to ownership or occupancy of the lands listed on this agreement,
- to identify areas in writing where I do not wish to have brushing take place,
- to hold indemnify and hold harmless the County, their agents and employees, from any claims, demands, actions and costs that may arise as a result of an act of omission in regards to this request,

PLEASE PROVIDE A MAP OR LIST LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTIONS TO INCLUDE IN THIS AGREEMENT ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Landowner/manager (Please Print): _____ Signature: _____

County Representative (Please Print): _____ Signature: _____

I/We agree that brushing/spraying will encroach on to my private property. By signing this document I am giving County staff or contractor's authorization to proceed with the requested brushing on the listed legal land location.

List legal land descriptions, owned or occupied, where the Brushing Request is to take effect:

Form B - Policy 6304

PROPERTY BRUSHING REQUEST

Clear Hills County

Use area below for diagram (if necessary):

Comments or Concerns:

Mowing for Community Not-for-Profit Organizations Waiver Agreement

BETWEEN: Clear Hills County, a Municipal Corporation
(hereinafter referred to as the "County")
OF THE FIRST PART
-and-

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

(hereinafter referred to as the "Organization")
OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS, the "Organization is the owner, or lessee of the following lands:

LAND LOCATION: _____

WHEREAS, the Organization desires the County to mow outlying fields and large grassed-in areas that are beyond the reasonable scope of riding and push lawn mowers.

NOW, THEREFORE, the County and the Organization agree as follows:

1. The County agrees to mow outlying fields and large grassed-in areas that are beyond the reasonable scope of riding and push lawn mowers; however it shall be understood that such mowing shall only be undertaken at the discretion of the County and only as part of the annual roadside mowing program when the Tractors and Mowers are operating in that area.
2. Either party may terminate this waiver by serving Notice of Intent to terminate. Five (5) days notice will be required.
3. The Organization hereby covenants and agrees that he will at all times indemnify and save harmless the County, his servants, contractors, and employees from and against all loss, damage or injury however caused, which may at any time during the continuance of this Waiver occur to any person or the property of any person including the Organization members.
4. The Organization shall not assign or transfer his interest under this Waiver.
5. The County shall have the right to refuse to mow any area that in the opinion of the operator or County representative too hazardous or difficult to mow.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Waiver has been duly executed by the parties hereto on:

_____ A.D., 20____.

SIGNED in the presence of:

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE: Print name _____

CLEAR HILLS COUNTY

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE