

<b>Department:</b> Agricultural Services	<b>Section:</b> AE - Enforcement Obligations
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## AE-01 Weed Control Enforcement Obligations

### Policy Statement

As a requirement under the *Weed Control Act* June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Part 2, Section 7: “A local authority shall appoint inspectors to enforce and monitor compliance with this Act within the municipality.”

### Definitions

- Control means to inhibit the growth or spread or destroy.
- Destroy means to kill all growing parts or to render reproductive mechanisms non-viable.
- Inspector is a person who has been appointed as a municipal weed inspector by the local authority under the *Alberta Weed Control Act*.
- Noxious Weed means a plant designated in accordance with the regulations as a noxious weed and includes the plant’s seeds.
- Prohibited Noxious Weed means a plant designated in accordance with the regulations as a prohibited noxious weed and includes the plant’s seeds.
- Property owner is the person responsible for a property who:
  - Is the legal owner of it,
  - Has lawful possession of it, or
  - Has the right to exercise control over it.

### Policy Authority

#### Legislative and policy implications

Weed control enforcement will be completed in accordance with:

- *Alberta Weed Control Act and Regulation*
- *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

### Standards

- (a) Conduct regular inspections on all properties within the municipality.
- (b) Transfer information to property owners on an ongoing basis.
- (c) Issue notices and enforce the *Weed Control Act* as required.
- (d) Enforcement procedures as specified by the *Weed Control Act*.
  - I. ASB Motion 06-93 “Administration costs for Enforcing Weed Control”.

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### **Policy Responsibilities**

#### **1. Council responsibilities**

Council shall:

- Approve the Weed Control Enforcement Obligations Policy.
- Appoint an independent Committee annually to hear and determine appeals received by the municipality against notices issued by an inspector under the *Weed Control Act*.
- Appoint inspectors brought forward by administration.

#### **2. Administration responsibilities**

Department directors and managers shall:

- Implement policy and administrative procedures in reference to weeds on private and public lands.
- Provide training and support for inspectors.
- Review this as required to ensure that the policy complies with all current, relevant legislation and municipal policies.

Inspectors shall:

- Inspect private and public lands for the presence of prohibited noxious and/or noxious weeds.
- Provide recommendations to property owners for effective destruction of prohibited noxious weeds and the control of noxious weeds.
- Issue a weed notice if they determine non-compliance on the property owners land in accordance with the *Weed Control Act*.

### **Monitoring & Updating**

This policy should be reviewed every two years.

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