

Department: Agricultural Services	Section: AE – Enforcement Obligations
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AE-02 Agricultural Pests Enforcement Obligations

Policy Statement

As a requirement under the Agricultural Pests Act, Section 6 “a local authority of a municipality shall take active measures to prevent the establishment of, or to control or destroy, pests in the municipality”.

Definitions

- *Inspector*, according to the *Agricultural Pests Act*, means a person appointed as an inspector, including an inspector by virtue of office.
- *Owner*, according to the *Agricultural Pests Act*, means
 - In the case of land, a person who is registered under the *Land Titles Act* as the owner of land, or
 - In the case of personal property, a person who is in lawful possession of it or who has the right to exercise control over it
- *Pest* is an animal, bird, insect, plant, or disease declared to be a pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

Policy Authority

Legislative and policy implications

- (a) Pest control enforcement will be completed in accordance with:
 - *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act and Regulation*
 - *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*
- (b) All pest investigations will be undertaken in accordance with the guidelines in the Pest Control Safe Practices and Administrative Procedures.

Pests – Enforcement Obligations Standards

- (a) Conduct inspections in accordance with relevant legislation.
- (b) The detection of a declared pest on property or livestock will be identified and the relevant information will be transferred to the property owner and/or producer on an ongoing basis.
- (c) Issue notices and enforce the *Agricultural Pests Act* as required.

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Policy Responsibilities

1. Council responsibilities

Council shall:

- Approve the Pests – 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 *Agricultural Pests Act*.
- Appoint Inspectors under the *Agricultural Pests Act* as required by the Act to conduct pest inspections.

2. Administration responsibilities

Department directors and managers shall:

- Review this policy as required to ensure that the policy complies with all current, relevant legislation, and municipal policies.
- Provide training and support for inspectors.

Inspectors shall:

- Inspect private and public lands for the presence of pests.
- Provide recommendations to residents and property owners for the effective management of pests in a timely manner.
- Issue a notice when non-compliance is determined.

Monitoring & Updating

This policy should be reviewed every two years.

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