

Policy statement

Leduc County will brush roadways under County jurisdiction to improve the rural road network and drainage networks

Definitions

Brushing means the removal of trees or brush by hand, chemical or machine methods.

Removal means the cutting, shredding, or otherwise separating a tree or brush from its roots.

Right-of-way means the lands owned or managed by Leduc County and used for the purpose of transportation and/or drainage.

Policy authority

Legislative implications:

- *Municipal Government Act (MGA), RSA 2000*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994)*
- *Species at Risk Act (S.C. 2002, c. 29)*

Policy standards

1. Road rights-of-way clear of tree and brush growth are safer, offer better visibility, are more stable, are less prone to snow drifting and offer more snow storage space. Clean drainage courses are more hydraulically efficient. For these reasons, removal of trees and brush in these areas is a priority.
2. Removal of trees and brush on private property will be preceded by formal agreements with property owners.
3. Landowners adjacent to areas planned for major tree and brush removal will be notified prior to commencement.
4. Agricultural Services will be notified of brushing activity to coordinate future spraying.
5. The priorities for brushing will be as per Table 1

Table 1:

Priority	Activity
1	Safety
2	Intersections
3	Roadside Ditches
4	Drainage Ditches

Table 2: Brushing Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

		Annually	KPI
Hand brushing	Intersections	20 projects (minimum)	95%
	Roadside ditch		
	Drainage ditch		

Machine brushing	Roadside ditch	15 miles of roadside ditch (minimum)	95%
	Drainage ditch		

Policy responsibilities

Council responsibilities:

Council will,

- Approve the Brushing on County Rights-of-way policy.

Administration responsibilities:

Director, Road Operations and Agricultural Services will,

- Maintain, update and adhere to this policy.
- Ensure that the appropriate resources are available to meet the service levels.

Manager, Operations will,

- Ensure staff adheres to this policy.
- Develop and prioritize the brushing program based on staff input and public concerns.
- Be responsible for selecting the areas to be brushed in conjunction with the Area Foreman and staff.

Road Operations staff will,

- Identify areas where brushing is required.
- Be aware of and follow the policy.

Monitoring and updating

- This policy will be posted on Leduc County’s website.
- This policy will be reviewed at least once every year.