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## Pesticide Notification – Developed Parklands

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**Date of Approval by Council:** 01/24/95; 11/25/2003

**Resolution No.:** 72/95; 837/2003

**Lead Role:** Chief Commissioner

**Replaces:** n/a

**Last Review Date:** November 20, 2017

**Next Review Date:** 11/2020

**Administrative Responsibility:** Recreation, Parks and Culture

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### Policy Statement

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Recreation, Parks and Culture will apply pesticides in accordance with the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, RSA 2000, c. E-12 and shall ensure the public is made aware of all pesticide applications to Developed Parklands in Strathcona County.

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### Definitions

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1. "Developed Parkland" means:
  - 1.1. Parkland within Strathcona County that has been set aside as a Reserve, Municipal Reserve, Public Utility Lot or School Reserve and has been developed with recreational amenities such as playing fields, playgrounds, formal trails, manmade lakes or other similar amenities.
2. "Parkland" means:
  - 2.1. Any land developed or used by the County as a public Park, sport field, playground, recreational area, boulevard within the Urban Service Area, titled utility right-of-way, undeveloped road right-of-way, dry pond, public utility lot or walkway, title to which is vested in the name of the County, excepting the Broadmoor Public Golf Course;
  - 2.2. Any land acquired by the County as Municipal Reserve, School Reserve, or Environmental Reserve as those terms are used in the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c. M-26, as amended from time to time (hereinafter the "Municipal Government Act") but does not include those parcels under disposition by license to Strathcona County Transportation and Agriculture Services for the purpose of grazing or agricultural permits or licenses;
  - 2.3. Any land designated by Council as a park or recreational area for the purposes of the General Parks Bylaw 30-92, as amended or replaced from time to time;
  - 2.4. Any land developed or designated by the County as a pathway and the Heritage Parkway Trail System (but not including sidewalks) and excluding permanent camping sites administered by Recreation, Parks and Culture; and
  - 2.5. County parking lots that service Parkland.

## Guidelines

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It is the purpose of the Pesticide Notification - Developed Parkland Policy to provide a framework for the public notification of the use of pesticide to control weeds in Developed Parkland and to ensure that a proper control mechanism is in place to provide adequate protection to human health and the environment.

This Policy does not apply to the application of *Bacillus Thuringiensis*, a naturally occurring bacterium.

The following information outlines Strathcona County's guidelines to most effectively and efficiently notify the public of steps to control weed problems in an environmentally responsible manner. This Policy applies only to Developed Parkland.

### 1. Public Notification

- (a) Notification of the spraying program shall be done through local Strathcona County, newspapers and the Strathcona County website on or before April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- (b) The public shall be notified by advertisements in local newspapers and on the Strathcona County website, a minimum of two weeks prior to any pesticide application and treated areas shall be posted for a minimum of forty-eight hours after application. Residents may request, personal notification prior to weed control spraying on parkland adjacent to their property and/or a no spray zone immediately adjacent to their property.

### 2. Safety Considerations

- (a) Pesticides shall be applied by or under the supervision of licensed applicators. All Federal and Provincial regulations regarding use, transportation and storage of pesticides will be strictly adhered to.
- (b) The Department shall ensure that applicators are following all required safety procedures and are wearing required protective clothing.
- (c) When spraying, the operator shall post warning signs for a minimum of forty-eight hours after application.

### 3. Time of Day

- (a) The pesticide treatment program shall be conducted during the day or early mornings. This is generally the time when winds are light, which will further reduce the risk of pesticide drifting.

### 4. Time of Year

- (a) Spring treatments shall be done only on those areas that have heavy weed infestation. Fall is the optimum time for a major effort to ensure an effective and efficient kill of weed infested areas.
- (b) It is understood that the above times and dates are weather dependant and may be altered. The public will be informed of changes through newspaper advertising and on-site signage.

### 5. Signs

- (a) The Department shall sign and require all contractors to sign all Developed Parkland areas that have been treated with a pesticide. Signs will display the date, time, chemical sprayed, safe re-entry time and phone number for information. Signs shall be posted as the area is being sprayed and will be

removed after a minimum forty-eight hour period. Signs are to be posted at all major public entrance points to the open space that has been treated.

6. School Grounds Locations

- (a) Applications done adjacent to schools shall, when ever possible, be sprayed during scheduled school breaks and/or vacations which usually occur during the months of July and August.

7. Other Park Locations

- (a) Parks, boulevards, public utility areas, lots, non-school sports fields and parking lots will be scheduled for regular maintenance and weed control. Other locations will be responded to "as requested".

8. Weed Complaints

- (a) All weed spraying concerns on developed parkland shall be directed to Recreation, Parks and Culture, Outdoor Services.

9. Review of Policy

- (a) The Pesticide Notification - Developed Parkland Policy shall be reviewed regularly.