



## Rural Municipality of Meadow Lake #588 Policy

Policy #PC-002

Policy Title: Weed Management Plan

### Policy Objective:

To help in controlling and eradication of Noxious/Nuisance Weeds through the development of this Weed Management Plan

### Authority:

Council Resolution #140/20

Dated: June 26, 2020

### 1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Weed Management Program for the Rural Municipality of Meadow Lake #588 will be to:

1. Prevent the establishment of new Invasive Alien Plants (IAPs)
2. The eradication of small isolated infestations of prohibited and isolated noxious weeds and the containment
3. Control of those established noxious/nuisance weeds that are now in the area.

This is essential if this municipality is to continue to use its land base to its fullest extent, whether it is for crop production, livestock production or recreation.

*\* Note: The term 'municipality' throughout the remainder of this document refers to the either Rural Municipality of Meadow Lake #588.*

### 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND(S) AFFECTED BY THE PLAN:

1. The areas covered in this plan are those within the municipality of *Rural Municipality of Meadow Lake #588*.
2. **Legal land locations included in this plan are:** All land within the municipality

### 3. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA:

- a. Included in the area are:
  - i. Unorganized Hamlet of Rapid View
  - ii. Organized Hamlet of South Waterhen Lake
  - iii. All roads included within the municipality which are administered and/or maintained by the RM of Meadow Lake.
  - iv. It is understood that Sask. Highways will maintain their right of ways
  - v. It is understood that Sask. Environment will maintain their lands
  - vi. It is understood that the Meadow Lake Provincial Park will maintain their lands and right of ways.
- b. The Municipality is an area of mixed of crop land, pastureland with some organic farms.
- c. The crop production areas have different weed management priorities then the pasture areas. Herbicides for crop production areas may require different than those for use in

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- pastures.
- d. Traffic corridors also require extra surveillance to immediately address weeds that may contaminate roadsides as they are a primary pathway and allow weeds to spread quickly. Monitoring of these corridors will be the responsibility of the municipality and the Weed Inspector. The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure will be asked to maintain and complete weed control on their rights-of-way.
- e. Farmers that are registered as organic producers must not lose their certification because of the off-target movement of herbicide during the spraying of weeds within or near their lands however, organic producers, are responsible for the creation of their own buffer zones to municipal right of way.

**4. WEED MANAGEMENT HISTORY/BACKGROUND**

Inspections will be facilitated on RM roads and right of ways at the request of the Manager of Public Works (MPW).

1. This will also include areas adjoining any RM land or roads.
2. The reports will consist of GPS locating, written reports, pictures of all locations with full documentation outlined in The Weed Control Act.
3. Inspections for the RM on the grid roads will consist of variable check stops to ascertain weed identification and counts.
4. If requested more detail can be done on problem areas.
5. Recommendations for divisions will be in writing on a timely basis.

**5. BUDGET**

**Proposed budget for Invasive Plant Management Activities shall be set on a yearly basis using the below example:**

COST	BUDGET (\$)
Labor	
Herbicides	
Equipment (purchase or rental)	
Other	
<b>Total Invasive Plant Control Budget</b>	

**6. DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED CONTROL ACTIVITIES:**

- a. **Control of High Priority weeds:**
  - These weeds can be eradicated with the use of registered herbicides.
- b. **Control of Medium Priority Weeds:**
  - Larger infested areas will be sprayed in an effort to isolate and control these sites.
- c. **Other Control Activities:**
  - In order to prevent the introduction and establishment of new Prohibited or



Noxious/Nuisance Weeds or other invasive plants, it is important for area residents be able to identify species of immediate concern and report them to the Manager of Public Works so the weeds may be eradicated quickly with the use of herbicides or hand pulling.

- All noxious weed sites that are presently documented with GPS, by the Weed Inspector, and must be monitored as to the effectiveness of the control measures that were taken. A record will be kept of each site, that include information such as size, weed density, site topography, soil type and control measures used.
  - These records shall be maintained and stored on the Road locations file in the Municipal Office.
  - If required by the Senior Governments, the Municipality may use the internet record keeping database [imapinvasives.org](http://imapinvasives.org) to document Prohibited and Noxious weed infestations and records of management activities including herbicide applications, biocontrol releases, manual efforts, tillage, etc.
- All herbicide applications will be conducted by a licensed applicator using herbicides with the least risk of secondary impact to the environment and non-target plants, animals or fish.
- Where required, permits will be acquired from Saskatchewan Environment for to apply herbicides within 50 meters of water bodies.
- Safe work procedures will be developed in accordance with The Occupational Health and Safety Act (OH&S) for potentially dangerous activities conducted by the weed inspector and for herbicide applications conducted by municipal applicators or if sprayers are contracted, they must demonstrate that they have developed their own safe work procedures under OH&S.
- This plan and weed management actions taken will be reviewed on a yearly basis and updated or modified where required.

## 7. Municipal Authority:

This Weed Management Plan is authorized by Policy #PC-002 as amended from time to time by the Council for the RM of Meadow Lake #588.



Signed:

Timothy McKay

Reeve

  
Signature

Gina Bernier

Chief Administrative Officer

Signature

  
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