



Department <b>Public Works</b>	Policy No. <b>PW 015</b>	Page <b>1 OF 2</b>
Policy Title <b>ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT</b>		

Council Resolution No. <b>52-02</b> Date: <b>February 11, 2002</b>	GMOS <i>[Signature]</i>	CC <i>[Signature]</i>	Cross Reference <b>AG 008</b>	Effective <b>February 11, 2002</b>
---	----------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------------	---------------------------------------

**PURPOSE**

Parkland County is responsible for removal and control of vegetation on roads that are subject to direction control and management of the County. A roadside vegetation management policy is required to set a standard for the removal of vegetation from the road allowance. The purpose, and some of the benefits are as follows:

- Improves site distances at intersections and on curves
- Provides safe access onto road allowances from approaches
- Improves drainage capacity in ditches by removing vegetation
- Reduces snow-drifting problems
- Provides sufficient area to deposit snow for winter maintenance
- Helps dry out gravel roads by allowing the sun to get to them
- Reduces icing problems on shaded portions of oiled and paved roads
- Improves visibility of roadside signs
- Improves our overall ability to maintain the road allowance.

**POLICY**

Parkland County, being the road authority, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the road system within the County. This includes the entire right-of-way and not only the travelled portion of roadway. Therefore, the County wishes to make provisions for the management of roadside vegetation for reasons of public safety, road maintenance, water management and roadway planning considerations.

**APPLICATION**

This policy applies to all developed road allowances within Parkland County except road construction projects or those roads specifically exempted by the General Manager of Operations Services.

**PROCEDURES**

1. **Mechanical Vegetation Control - Brush and Trees**
  - a) On all roads designated Arterial Roads or Major Collectors, removal of brush and trees will be carried out to the limits of the right-of-way unless there are physical limitations, which prevent this.
  - b) On local roads and those designated as minor collectors, efforts will be made to remove brush and trees to the limits of the right-of-way. However, if this is not practical, brush and trees will be removed from the areas of the sideslopes, ditch bottoms and at least one metre beyond the ditch bottoms or for a distance of not less than five metres from the edge of the roadway surface.

- c) Subdivision roads will be treated on a case specific basis. Property owners will be notified in writing prior to commencement of any proposed brush and tree removal program within their particular subdivision.

**2. Mechanical Vegetation Control - Grasses**

- a) On all roads designated as Arterial or Major Collectors, grass mowing will be carried out to the limits of the right-of-way one time per season between July 20th and August 20th, and one 10 foot (3.048 metre) pass will be made between June 20th and July 10th unless physically impossible or unless otherwise designated on the mowing map.
- b) On local roads and minor collectors, one 10-foot (3.048 metre) pass will be made adjacent to the driving surface unless otherwise designated on the mowing map.
- c) Subdivision roads will be mowed within one 10 foot (3.048 metre) pass on each side of the road surface once per season unless otherwise designated on the mowing map.

**3. Chemical Vegetation Control - Refer to Policy AG 008**

- a) Within the bounds of good practice and IVMA Standards, all roadsides will be sprayed to the limits of the right-of-way on a rotational basis. Brush under two (2) metres in height, weeds and non-grass species will be targeted.
- b) Any new or recently constructed roads (recently constructed being those built during the preceding construction season) will be recorded on the general spraying map and will be sprayed within two to three years.
- c) All roads which have been brushed in the preceding brushing season will be included on the general spraying map and will be sprayed.
- d) Each year between April 15th and May 15th, the Public Works Manager and the Manager of Agricultural Services will carry out field and map inspections of all roadsides to be targeted for spraying. The priority for IVM oriented spraying is:

**4. Most recent years brushing**

- a) Most recent years constructions
- b) Previous years brushing and construction based on road classification (Arterial, Major Collector, Minor Collector, Local, Subdivision).

**5. The brushing and spraying maps will be combined and be maintained by the respective departments.**

**6. In areas of concentrated development and residential areas approval may be obtained from the Public Works Manager to selectively leave trees in ditch bottoms or on blackslopes.**