



POLICY

OWNER DEPT: COMMUNITY SERVICES

EFFECTIVE DATE: *August 05, 2020*

REVISED DATE:

SUPERSEDES:

MOTION NUMBER: *#278-20*

TITLE: PESTICIDE USE IN PUBLIC SPACES

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Town of Slave Lake commits to restrictions of pesticide usage in its public spaces, such as parks, sports fields, greenspaces, and other outdoor spaces owned by the Town.

POLICY OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Provide direction to operational staff on pesticide applications;
2. Recognize the environmental impacts of pesticide applications;
3. Ensure compliance with Environmental Protection legislation; and
4. Provide public notification where pesticides are used.

David Kim, CAO

August 6, 2020

Date Approved

TITLE: PESTICIDE USE IN PUBLIC SPACES

PROCEDURE

Definition

1. **Application** means the application of a pesticide, including herbicides and insecticides.
2. **Applicator** means the person who is applying the pesticide.
3. **Director** means the Director of Community Services for the Town of Slave Lake.
4. **Herbicide** means a substance which is used against plants.
5. **Insecticide** means a substance which is used against insects.
6. **Manager** means the Manager of Facilities and Parks for the Town of Slave Lake.
7. **Pesticide** means any product, device, organism, substance or thing that is manufactured, represented, sold or used as a means for directly or indirectly controlling, preventing, destroying, mitigating, attracting or repelling any pest, and includes herbicides and insecticides.
8. **Public Spaces** means any spaces owned or leased by the Town of Slave Lake defined as a *Park* in the *Parks Bylaw #15-2019*.

Responsibilities

1. The Director is responsible for approving pesticide applications in public spaces, as well as ensuring that this policy and legislation is followed.
2. The Manager is responsible for ensuring the operational aspects of applications follow this policy and legislation.

Standards/Guidelines

1. Only when necessary can a pesticide be applied to control an invasive species, a pest, or regulated organism. This includes those that would impact the safety and enjoyment of public spaces.

Policy and Procedures

1. Herbicides may only be applied to control noxious weeds and weeds that would impact public safety and enjoyment of public spaces:
 - a. Remove or control noxious and prohibited noxious weeds legislated by the *Weed Control Act*;
 - b. Maintain sports fields, cemeteries, beds adjacent to Town owned facilities, and public spaces used of high profile events; and
 - c. Protect against damage to infrastructure such as sewer pipes, storm water facilities, hard surfaces, and for fire safety.
2. Insecticides may only be applied to control regulated insects that would impact public safety and enjoyment of public spaces:

TITLE: PESTICIDE USE IN PUBLIC SPACES

- a. Remove or control regulated insects under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, or other legislation; and
 - b. Protect against damage to infrastructure and for fire safety.
- 3. Where possible, other means to control the pest or weed will be considered before pesticide applications. Pesticide applications may be used in circumstances where alternative practices or products have failed to manage the weeds or pests.
- 4. All pesticide applications must meet the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, and regulations, including:
 - a. A person holding a valid applicator certificate for the pesticide that he/she may be applying;
 - b. A person working under the supervision of an applicator who holds a valid applicator certificate; and
 - c. In accordance with the latest edition of the *Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides*, published by the Government of Alberta.
- 5. All pesticide applications must be approved by the Director.
- 6. Public notification will be made according to the *Environmental Code of Practice for Pesticides*, and no less than 24 hours prior to or 48 hours after the application, whichever is greater. This includes:
 - a. Notification on the Town's website; and
 - b. Posting signs at the treatment sites.