

Wheatland County
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AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT POLICIES

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AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.1– ASB BOARD	3.1.1 VISION, MISSION & GOALS Page 1/1
Effective Date:	Revised: April/09 Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742 Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To establish strategic direction for the Agricultural Service Board (ASB).

POLICY

~~The Agricultural Service Board Act provides for the establishment of an Agricultural Service Board (ASB) by County Council.~~

~~To assist Boards in future planning, Council has adopted the Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board (ASB business planning is guided by) business plan~~
the following vision, mission, and goals:

Vision: The Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board is committed to strengthening; promoting and supporting agriculture and the environment within our municipality with a view to continually improve how we operate in future years.

Mission: The ASB develops and implements programs and policies that focus on the areas of weeds, pests, soil and water conservation and environmental issues for the benefit of all residents. ~~We work in partnership through good communication~~ with other government agencies, the agriculture industry and residents on agricultural programs and issues.

Goals

1. To operate as an effective, viable, pro-active Agricultural Service Board that fosters the growth and development of partnerships.
2. To promote agriculture and the rural way of life.
3. To be responsive to current issues and trends in agriculture and incorporate them into ongoing programs.
4. To help prevent the spread and establishment of invasive weed species through an integrated vegetation management program.
5. To help prevent the establishment and spread of declared pests and assist with the control of nuisance pests as described in the Agricultural Pests Act.
6. To maintain the integrity of agricultural soils through the delivery and support of the Soil Conservation Act.
7. To assist in the control of animal diseases under the Animal Health Act.

~~8. Goal 8—To promote watershed health with a view to protect agriculture and the environment.~~
Increase awareness, understanding and implementation of

environmental agricultural practices and programs, with an emphasis on supporting the agricultural industry.

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.1 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT Page 1/1
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: April/09 Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742 Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To describe the components of municipal vegetation management for which the Agriculture and Environment department is responsible with the intent of controlling weeds, assisting with public safety, reducing snow drift, and improving County aesthetics.

POLICY

The Agriculture and Environment department ~~ASB~~ is responsible for ~~municipal vegetation management~~ vegetation control on road rights of way and weed control on County-owned lands.

~~The Vegetation Management Program has the following components~~ These activities include:

- Mowing and spot spraying of shoulders and/or slopes ~~and spot spraying~~ of all municipal roads ~~with grader mowers~~ starting in mid-June based on a rotation of grader divisions.
- A second cut of ~~local municipal~~ roads ~~is started~~ will be completed if required and if conditions allow at the discretion of the Manager of Agriculture and Environment ~~in mid-Sept following the same rotation of grader divisions as the first cut.~~ Not all roads will receive a second cut.
 - 3. ~~Municipal hard surfaced roads or heavily traveled newly constructed roads may be cut twice and spot sprayed.~~
- Private construction borrow ~~borrow~~ ~~areas~~ seeded to forage and the entire right of way of newly constructed roads will be mowed if necessary.

- Municipally owned or leased lands under the direct care of Wheatland County will be sprayed for weed control if necessary.
- Chemical brush control on cut stumps and re-growth in road ditches on locations supplied by Public Works.

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.2 FORAGE SEEDING Page 1/1
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742 Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To describe forage seeding activities carried out by the Agriculture and Environment department with the intent of revegetation of disturbed sites and erosion control.

POLICY

The Agriculture and Environment department is responsible for forage seeding of County-disturbed sites. This program will abide by the following guidelines:

- New roads and disturbances on road allowances are generally intended to be seeded in spring following the construction year.
- Public works staff shall notify the Agricultural Foreman when disturbed areas are ready to be seeded and ensure that these areas are leveled and free of excessive rocks and debris.
- Contractor seeded disturbance must supply a certificate of seed analysis to the Manager of Agriculture al-Services and Environment for approval prior to purchasing their seed.
- The roadside forage mix will be approved by the Manager of Agriculture al-Services and Environment. Wheatland County will only purchase seed with a certificate of seed analysis.
- The ASB Agriculture and Environment department seeds all borrow pits that were previously in forage with the forage species requested by the landowner. The County Land Agent is consulted prior to seeding all borrows on private land to

determine any special conditions for seeding ~~or reclamation work.~~

- ~~If the ASB cannot satisfactorily seed the borrow pit to the requirements of the landowner, seed will be supplied by the ASB to the landowner who will be required to seed it. If a landowner requests unique conditions for seeding that cannot be met by the Agriculture and Environment department, seed will be supplied to the landowner for seeding.~~ The location of the borrow area and the quantity and type of seed will be recorded and the landowner must sign a waiver releasing Wheatland County from any further responsibility or liability.

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.3 WEED INSPECTION Page 1/1
Effective Date: March 14, 2017 Res. 17-03-37	Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To offer guidelines for the fulfillment of legislated duties under the *Weed Control Act*.

POLICY

The Agriculture and Environment department is responsible for all duties legislated under the *Weed Control Act* and will carry out weed inspection activities in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Weed inspection will be completed according to the *Weed Control Act* and Regulations.
- ~~Wheatland County shall ensure that~~ a sufficient number of weed inspectors are appointed to carry out the provisions of the *Weed Control Act*.
- ~~The weed inspection program shall include inspection, inventory and monitoring of both public and private lands.~~
- When a weed problem is found every effort shall be taken to work with the landowner to resolve the problem in an amicable manner.

- Weed notices may be issued by an appointed weed inspector for species regulated under the *Weed Control Act*, at the discretion of the Manager of Agriculture and Environment or designate.

~~Weed notices may be issued by an appointed weed inspector at the discretion of the Manager of Agricultural Services or designate.~~

REFERENCES

External

- Weed Control Act, SA 2008, c W-5.1

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.4 PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL Page 1/1
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742 Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To offer guidelines for the control of specific agricultural pests and nuisances in Wheatland County in accordance with the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

POLICY

Pest and nuisance control for the specific agricultural pests and nuisances listed will be administered according to the *Agricultural Pests Act* and Regulations and the following guidelines:

- **Coyote:** Livestock producers may, if qualified for a Form 8 Permit to Use Control Material, be given a maximum of six (6) 1080 tablets per predation occurrence., ~~three (3) M44 devices, and up to six (6) cyanide cartridges.~~ ~~M44 Devices and a~~ Any unused ~~toxicant~~ 1080 tablets are to be returned at the end of the predation occurrence or within 30 days from issuance.
- **Norway Rat:** All suspected Norway Rat infestations should be ~~dealt with immediately~~ treated as a priority and must be investigated within ~~three~~ two (2) days.
- **Richardson's Ground Squirrel:** The ~~Agriculture~~ real Service Board and Environment Department may be involved in the retail sale and distribution of ~~rodenticides:~~ 2% Strychnine for the control of Richardson's Ground Squirrel, as long as it is allowed by legislation and is not available through existing retail outlets.
- ~~Other Nuisances: Other nuisance animal complaints are forwarded to the local Fish & Wildlife Office.~~ Traps for skunks and magpies shall be made available to ratepayers as per the equipment rental policy.

REFERENCES

External

- Agricultural Pests Act RSA 2000, c A-8

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.5 CLUBROOT Page 1/ 24
Effective Date: New Policy Dec. 1/09 CM – 09-742	Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To offer guidelines for the fulfillment of legislated duties under the *Agricultural Pests Act* for monitoring and control of clubroot.

POLICY

As Clubroot is a declared pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, Wheatland County will undertake the following measures to help prevent the spread of this disease within the municipality:

- Random field inspections will be conducted by pest inspectors appointed by the Municipality.
- Inspectors will follow procedures set out by Wheatland County Agriculture and Environmental Services on proper sampling techniques and protocol for entering upon land.
- Positive identification of Clubroot shall include visible root gall symptoms, visible adverse effects on top growth as well as a positive PCR test on root material.
- A positive PCR test on soil alone will be considered a risk indicator and that the field should be monitored for Clubroot symptoms in susceptible plants in the future.
- When land is verified positive for Clubroot, the landowner may be issued a Legal notice in accordance with the Province of Alberta's *Agricultural Pest Act*. The notice may include any or all of the following conditions:
 - The growing of canola, mustard or other susceptible crop shall be limited to once (1) in four (4) years.
 - Within the 1 in 4-year rotation only a registered clubroot resistant variety may be grown.
 - Adjacent landowners to the affected property shall be notified in writing that clubroot is present.
 - If a host crop is sown on land that has been verified positive for Clubroot and a notice has been issued on this property restricting the growth of host crops,

the host crop shall be destroyed.

- The owner, occupants and all other users of the land will have the responsibility to follow best management practices as outlined by Alberta Agriculture & Forestry.

REFERENCES

External

- Agricultural Pests Act RSA 2000, c A-8

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.6 SOIL CONSERVATION <div style="text-align: right;">Page 1/1</div>
Effective Date: New Policy Oct. 5/17 - Res. 17-10-07	Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To offer guidelines for the fulfillment of legislated duties under the *Soil Conservation Act*.

POLICY

The Agriculture and Environment department is responsible for all duties legislated under the *Soil Conservation Act* and will carry out inspection activities in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Wheatland County shall ensure ~~that~~ a sufficient number of Soil Conservation Officers are appointed to carry out the provisions of the *Soil Conservation Act*.
- The soil conservation program shall include inspection and monitoring of cultivated land within Wheatland County.
- When a soil erosion problem is found every effort shall be taken to work with the landowner to resolve the problem in an amicable manner.
- Notices may be issued by an appointed Soil Conservation Officer at the discretion of the Manager of Agriculture ~~and Environment~~ and Environment or designate.

REFERENCES

External

- Soil Conservation Act RSA 2000, c S-15

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.7 ANIMAL HEALTH	Page 1/1
Effective Date: New Policy Oct. 5/17 CM - Res. 17-10-07	Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)	

PURPOSE

To offer guidelines for Wheatland County's assistance with animal disease inspection and outbreaks in accordance with the *Animal Health Act*.

POLICY

Pursuant to Section 2(c) of the *Agricultural Service Board Act* Wheatland County shall assist in the control of animal diseases under the *Animal Health Act* in accordance with the following guidelines:-

~~The County will cooperate with provincial and federal authorities in the event of a disease outbreak.~~

- The Manager of Agriculture and Environmental Services or designate will serve as an inspector under the *Animal Health Act* if appointed by the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian.
- In the event of a disease outbreak, and in consultation with Provincial and Federal authorities, the County will assist in the dissemination of information to producers, residents and members of the public ~~in regards to~~ in regard to appropriate disease prevention and control practices.

REFERENCES

External

- Agricultural Service Board Act, RSA 2000, c A-10
- Animal Health Act, SA 2007, c A-40.2

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.8 PRODUCER EXTENSION AND EDUCATION Page 1/1
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: April/09 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the development and delivery of producer extension and education activities.

POLICY

The Agriculture and Environment department will develop and deliver producer extension and education opportunities with a goal to “promote, enhance, and protect viable and sustainable agriculture with a view to improving the economic viability of the agricultural producer,” as described in Section 2(d) of the *Agricultural Service Board Act*. Education and extension methods may include, but are not limited to:

- Producer workshops, tours, meetings, and conferences
- Coordination of producer grants
- Development and delivery of newsletters, publications, and other communication materials
- Use of social media, newspapers, website, and other media methods for information extension
- Working in partnership with stakeholders to provide producer support
- Provision of technical support to the agricultural community

The Agricultural Service Board works with interested partners in providing producers support with developments in the Agriculture Industry.

REFERENCES

External

- Agricultural Service Board Act, RSA 2000, c A-10

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.9 PARKS Page 1/1
PURPOSE	
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: April/09 Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

The Agricultural Services Department will work in conjunction with public works on the maintenance of public parks.

SEVERN DAM:

– Services are provided as budget permits.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.10 PESTICIDE CONTAINER SITES Page 1/1
PURPOSE	
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: April/09 Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM — Res. 09-742 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM — Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM — Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

The Agricultural Service Board in conjunction with public works is responsible for the maintenance of pesticide container sites located within the waste transfer sites at Strathmore, Standard, and Hussar.

Sites should be inspected monthly through the growing season to ensure pesticide containers are placed within the site and cardboard boxes are removed.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.11 BRUSH CONTROL Page 1/1
PURPOSE	
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: April/09 Revised: Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

~~Chemical brush control will be carried out on cut stumps and re-growth in road ditches on locations of cut brush supplied by Public Works.~~

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.2 – ASB PROGRAMS	3.2.912 BURSARY POLICY Page 1/2
PURPOSE	The purpose of this policy is to provide a bursary to Wheatland County students furthering their education at a post-secondary institution in an agriculture or environmental science related field.
Effective Date: February 5, 2019 Res. 19-02-47 - Feb. 5/19 CM	Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a bursary to Wheatland County students furthering their education at a post-secondary institution in an agriculture or environmental science related field.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) recognizes the importance of youth to the agricultural industry and rural communities in Wheatland County. To assist students wishing to pursue a career in an Agriculture or Environmental Science-related field the ASB will provide up to six thousand dollars (\$6000) in bursaries annually with a minimum award of five hundred dollars (\$500) and a maximum award of one-thousand and five-hundred dollars (\$1500) depending upon the number of applicants that meet the criteria.

PROCEDURE POLICY GUIDELINES

1. Eligibility

- a. Available to students continuing their education in the field of Agriculture or Environmental Science.
- b. Funding is not available to persons qualifying for or participating in job training assistance grants or previous bursary recipients.
- c. High School graduate (within 3 years) residing within the boundaries of Wheatland County.
- d. Enrolled at a recognized post-secondary institution.- Applicants pursuing their post-secondary studies outside of Alberta are eligible.

2. Applications

- a. Applications are accepted by e-mail, mail, or delivery in-person on or before August 31st.
- b. Submit an essay introducing yourself and outlining your career goals.- Include any contributions made to your local community or school through volunteering or

extracurricular activities.

- c. Supply a copy of your high school academic report and preceding post-secondary semester grades if applicable.
- d. Submit a copy of your letter of acceptance stating the course of studies from the post-secondary institute you are attending.
- e. Submit a head and shoulder photograph of yourself. – The photograph may be published and will not be returned if mailed.
- f. Complete and submit the Agriculture & Food Production examination.

3. Criteria

Applications and the required documentation will be reviewed by the Manager of Agriculture ~~al Service~~ and Environment or Agriculture Service Board Bursary Committee who will make a recommendation to the Agricultural Service Board regarding selections.

Funds

Funds awarded will be made payable to the ~~students~~ student's post-secondary institution with the conditions that funds be used for tuition, learning resources or room and board. Should the student leave the institution prior to the funds being expended, the balance will be returned to Wheatland County.

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.3 – EQUIPMENT & SERVICES	3.3.1 EQUIPMENT RENTAL Page 1/ 24
Effective Date: New Policy Dec. 1/09 CM – Res. 09-742	Revised: July 7/10 CM – Res. 10-424 Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 6/12 CM – Res. 12-239 (See ASB Res. 12-09 – Feb. 22/12) Revised: June 19/12 CM – Res. 12-550 (See ASB Res. 12-20 – April 4/12) Revised: April 16/13 CM – Res. 13-04-62 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To provide rental equipment to Wheatland County ratepayers that is not readily available from private sources.

POLICY

Wheatland County will make equipment available to rent ~~that is not readily available from private sources~~ in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Advance bookings are given priority with consideration given to “local vicinity” requests.
- The equipment rental agreement must be completed and signed by the renter prior to use.
- Delivery and pickup of rental equipment may be made by Agriculture and Environment ~~SB personnel employees~~ if time permits or it will be the responsibility of the renter. It is understood that the insurance of the vehicle transporting the equipment will apply.
- The renter is responsible for all cost of repairs incurred due to damage outside of normal wear while the rental equipment is in their possession.
- Wheatland County will invoice renters for rental charges as well as any repairs that are needed.
- All spray tanks must be cleaned. Sterilization of the tank may be required depending upon chemical used.
- The tree spraying unit is to be only used with registered insecticides.
- Cleaning charges may be applied to any un-cleaned equipment.
- Skunk and Magpie traps are not to be used for the purpose of catching domestic animals. Disposal of trapped animals is the responsibility of the user.
- Refundable deposits must go through the administration office.

- Rental equipment shall not be rented outside of the municipality unless the renter is a ratepayer of Wheatland County.
- Wheatland County reserves the right to refuse equipment rental at the discretion of the Manager of Agriculture and Environment.
- The Agriculture and Environment department will maintain and provide rental equipment listed on Schedule A, Rental Equipment List.

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

ADDENDUM TO 3.3.1 EQUIPMENT RENTAL **SCHEDULE A – RENTAL EQUIPMENT LIST**

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Rental Rate</u>
<u>Pasture Sprayer</u>	<u>\$100 per day</u>
<u>Weed Wiper</u>	<u>\$100 per day</u>
<u>Tree Sprayer</u>	<u>\$100 per day</u>
<u>Tree Planter</u>	<u>\$50 per day</u>
<u>Grain Bag Roller</u>	<u>Free Service (Policy 3.3.2)</u>
<u>Cattle Moving and Crossing Signs</u>	<u>Free</u>
<u>Skunk Traps</u>	<u>Free</u>
<u>Magpie Traps</u>	<u>Free</u>
<u>Forage Sampler</u>	<u>Free</u>

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.3 – EQUIPMENT & SERVICES	3.3.2- <u>AGRICULTURAL</u> PLASTIC GRAIN BAG RECYCLING <div>Page 1/1</div>
Effective Date: New Policy Oct. 5/17 CM - Res. 17-10-07	Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To facilitate the recycling of agricultural plastics in Wheatland County.

POLICY

The Agriculture and Environment Department will provide agricultural plastic recycling opportunities to Wheatland County ratepayers according to the following guidelines:

~~The Agricultural Services Department will provide a plastic grain bag rolling service for producers according to the following criteria:~~

Plastic Grain Bag Rolling Service

- Advance bookings by producers are given priority with consideration given to “local vicinity” requests.
- Services may not be immediate due to weather conditions or other programming priorities.
- Bag rolling services outside of Wheatland County will only be provided if the producer is a ratepayer of Wheatland County.
- Producers must sign a Municipal Access Agreement prior to having the bags rolled stating they will assist the County employee in rolling the bags and will release ownership of the grain bags to the Municipality.
- The County reserves the right at the discretion of the County employee to refuse providing the service of rolling grain bags or the acceptance of the grain bags if they are not deemed to be reasonably clean.
- Previously rolled bags upon inspection may be accepted as is or re-rolled if cleanliness is in question.
- Only plastic bags used for grain storage are eligible for this program.

Pesticide Container Collection: The Agriculture and Environment department will assist Waste Transfer Site employees with management of pesticide container collection if necessary.

Other Recycling: The Agriculture and Environment department will facilitate other agricultural plastic recycling when possible (i.e. twine recycling).

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.3 – EQUIPMENT & SERVICES	3.3.3 LIVESTOCK DRIVE <div>Page 1/3</div>
Effective Date: New Policy April 15/14 CM – Res. 14-04-61	Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To facilitate livestock movement within Wheatland County in a safe and effective manner.

Policy Statement: POLICY

-Wheatland County strives to ensure safe road use throughout our jurisdiction but also understands that the movement of livestock across or along our ~~road ways~~roadways is a necessary part of aAgriculture within the municipality. Livestock movement will be facilitated in accordance with the following guidelines: ~~Our primary focus is to facilitate the continued movement of livestock in our municipality in a safe and effective manner:~~

- Livestock Drive signage will be available for ratepayer & resident use on County and Provincial roads within Wheatland County.
- Approval of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation is required for all single, double, and triple digit highways.
Requests for signs should be made in advance to the Manager of Agriculture ~~and~~ and Environment Services or designate.
- Users must come to the Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board shop to complete a Livestock Drive Agreement (Appendix Schedule A) before receiving the signage.
~~→ The Livestock Drive Agreement may be amended from time to time by resolution of council.~~
- ~~→~~ Signs will be provided at no charge with pick-up and return of the signs being the responsibility of the user. Signs must be returned within 1 week of the pickup date.
- Traffic control assistance by Ppeace Officers may be requested during regular business hours but is discretionary and will depend upon their availability.

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

ADDENDUM TO 3.3.3 LIVESTOCK DRIVE
SCHEDULE A - LIVESTOCK DRIVE AGREEMENT

APPENDIX "A"

Contact

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Preamble

- As Wheatland County continues to maintain and strive to ensure safe road use throughout the jurisdiction, preservation of our Agricultural Community remains to be paramount. Standard operating procedures must be followed to ensure a safe work and road use environment.
- Section 37(2) of the Stray Animals Act states that no person shall permit or allow any livestock owned by him or in his possession to be on a highway unless it is in his/her or another persons' direct and continuous charge and he/she is competent to control the livestock.
- Livestock Drives on, along and/or across any highway is a concern due to the cattle's unpredictable nature. The organizers of Livestock Drives must ensure that the safety of motorists is not jeopardized during the move. In the interest of safety for those involved and other roadway users, all persons wanting to move livestock within the highway right-of-way, specifically on or along County owned/maintained roads, may contact Wheatland County for advisement and signage availability.

Guidelines

- ALL Livestock / Trail & Cattle Drives occurring on or along Provincial Highways (single, double, and triple digit highways), must refer to the Special Events Guide established through Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation. Direct contact can be made to the Calgary Office at: 1 (403) 297-6311.
Information requests would be regarding "Permits for Livestock Drives".
- Livestock Drives on any road surface, is discouraged unless absolutely necessary.
- These situations will typically involve crossing a highway from one side of the road to another, crossing over a bridge, etc. When such crossings are anticipated, organizers should have an adequate number of herders in place to control the cattle during the maneuver.
- Pilot vehicles and Flag Persons may be necessary to safely guide motorists through the area where:

- Livestock is traveling adjacent to the highway for a significant ~~distance;~~distance
- Roadway has any sightline concerns;

- The herd size/volume would create a motorist delay in excess of 30 minutes.
- In case of inclement weather or poor visibility conditions, Livestock Drives should be suspended until conditions have improved. Livestock Drives are subject to suspension by the R.C.M.P., Peace Officers, or Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation if, in their opinion, the Livestock Drive presents a hazard to participants and/or the ~~general public~~public.

Signage

If an organizer has or his/her owns signage, messages such as "TRAIL DRIVE", "CATTLE DRIVE", "HORSES AHEAD" or similar wording are satisfactory. These signs should ~~been~~be highly visible to any/all road-users and motorists alike.

Notification and Application Guidelines

- REASONABLE NOTIFICATION must be provided to Wheatland County, during regular business hours, upon request for signage.
- The operator acknowledges that contact with Alberta Transportation is required pertaining to ALL Provincial Highways. Single, double, and triple digit highways are classified as "Provincial Highways".
- Please note that traffic control assistance by the R.C.M.P. or Peace Officers is discretionary and will depend on their availability.

Hold Harmless

Wheatland County assumes no responsibility for whatever may occur during a Livestock Drive.

Wheatland County shall not be deemed to represent, warrant or guarantee that the equipment will be effective or safe for the purpose for which it is to be used, and the recipient assumes the entire responsibility for the selection and use of this equipment.

By signing below, I have read and agree to the ~~aforementioned guidelines/conditions~~guidelines and conditions.

Acknowledged: _____
Signature of User

Rental Date: _____

Return Due Date: _____

Date Returned: _____

Received by: _____

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.3 – EQUIPMENT & SERVICES	3.3.4 HAYING OF MUNICIPAL RIGHT OF WAYS Page 1/1
Effective Date: Jan. 1, 2005	Revised: Oct. 18/11 CM – Res. 11-797 Revised: Mar. 14/17 CM – Res. 17-03-37 Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

To facilitate the haying of municipal right of ways by ratepayers in Wheatland County.

POLICY

Ratepayers must fill out an Access and Work Agreement and submit it to the Agriculture and Environment department as an application for haying in municipal right of ways. The Agriculture and Environment department receives and reviews all applications. Approval is at the discretion of the Manager of Agriculture and Environment or designate. If approved, a letter of confirmation will be sent to the applicant. Haying requirements shall be included as a Schedule A1 attachment to the Wheatland County Access and Work Agreement, as follows:-

- Application for haying of municipal right of ways will be accepted up to May 31 with priority given to adjacent landowners.
- All areas listed for haying on the access and work agreement must be cut by the applicant. Failure to do so may result in denial of future haying requests.
- Haying operations will be conducted in a safe and workman like manner that creates no hazard to traffic.
- Due to safety concerns bales must be left three (3) or more meters from the edge of the road.
- Bales must be removed within ten (10) days of baling.
- Bales must not be left in an area that will block drainage.
- It is understood and agreed that there may be herbicides present from Wheatland County's weed control program.
- ~~8. The Contractor shall, without limiting his obligations herein, and at his own expense, provide and maintain Farm, Comprehensive or Commercial General Liability Insurance in an amount not less than Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) Dollars per occurrence against bodily injury, personal injury and property damage, and completed operations liability. The Municipality is to be added as an additional insured under this policy for any and all claims arising out of the Contractor's operations. The policy shall be endorsed to state it is primary and will not require~~

~~pro rata sharing of any loss by any insurer of the Municipality. Evidence of such insurance, in a form acceptable to the municipality, shall be provided to the municipality prior to the commencement of any work.~~

- ~~• 9. Any cost incurred by Wheatland County to enforce these conditions may be charged back to the applicant.~~

~~10. The Contractor hereby releases, indemnifies and hold harmless the Municipality, and its employees, agents, representatives, and related entities from any and all liability which may arise from or be related to the Contractor's acts or omissions, or anything arising from or associated with the Agreement or the matters set out herein, including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, any and all third party claims, demands, actions or proceedings that may arise, directly or indirectly, out of any act, failure to act or omission of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, agents or subcontractors.~~

DOCUMENT OWNER

Manager of Agriculture and Environment

- ~~11. Paragraph 10 of this Schedule will survive the expiry or termination of this agreement.~~

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY SECTION 3.4 – ENVIRONMENT Services	3.4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY Page 1/3
Effective Date: October 4, 2016 Res. 16-10-11	Revised: May 5/20 CM – Res. CM-2020-05-27 (Policy Restructure)

PURPOSE

~~The purpose of this policy is to~~ guide Wheatland County towards leadership in environmental accountability for the benefit of its residents, industry, and visitors, and to ~~This policy will~~ establish guidelines for the provision of environmentally responsible services in Wheatland County.

POLICY ~~STATEMENT~~

Wheatland County is committed to being a leader in environmental accountability through balancing the environment with the social and economic needs of the community; leading by example; understanding and responding to the specific environmental needs of our residents and natural environment; and engaging and enabling stakeholders to protect the value that our natural environment provides. To achieve this, the County will operate in accordance with the following guidelines:

POLICY GUIDELINES

- a. The County will strive to comply with, and exceed where possible, all environmental requirements applicable to County operations and responsibilities.
- b. In all County decision making, we shall integrate environmental considerations with a goal to balance environmental value with social and economic benefits.
- c. The County will utilize stakeholder consultation and the best available scientific information to determine the environmental needs and well-being of the community.
- d. The County will strive to address the environmental needs of the community through targeted programming, with a goal to continually improve the environmentally responsible services we provide through our operations.
- e. The County will encourage contributions to environmental sustainability by seeking opportunities to enable and support community members, and to create meaningful partnerships with stakeholders to achieve mutual environmental goals.
- ~~f.~~ The County will ensure transparency ~~of environmental decision making~~ and engagement of the community in the ~~decision making~~ decision-making process where decisions impact the environment, and will ~~The County will~~ strive to increase public awareness of environmental issues through effective communications. as per General Policy 3.20, Public Participation & Engagement Policy.

~~g.~~

ALIGNMENT WITH POLICY

This policy commitment will be considered in all plans, strategies, and services, and will be incorporated into new and existing municipal directives where appropriate.

DEFINITIONS

“Environment” refers to Wheatland County’s landscape and its natural components including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans, and all their ecological interactions. The environment, in this context, includes all natural components within the boundary of Wheatland County, and extends to those that can be impacted whether adjacent, down-wind, down-stream, or globally by activities that occur within Wheatland County.

“Environmental Accountability” refers to recognition of the need to protect the environment from impacts caused by human activities, and the acceptance of responsibility for reducing such impacts with a goal to protect the natural environment wherever possible.

“Environmental Needs” are matters of the environment considered to be of significant interest to stakeholders or identified by science or environmental requirements to be priority issues in Wheatland County.

“Environmental Requirements” refers to Acts, Regulations, Guidelines, Standards, permits to operate, and Bylaws, as enacted by any federal, provincial, municipal, territorial or Aboriginal governments; industry codes of practice, agreements with public authorities, internal Council or Administrative policies or requirements or any other regulatory or non-regulatory guidelines pertaining to the environment that are applicable to Wheatland County’s operation.

~~**“Environmentally Responsible Services”** refers to all services offered by Wheatland County and the intention to align such services with environmental requirements wherever possible. The goal is to promote a healthy environment and reduce environmental impacts.~~

“Stakeholders,” in this policy, refers to any individual, organization, industry, agency, governing body, or otherwise, with a direct interest in the environment in Wheatland County. Examples include, but are not limited to: ratepayers and community members, Wheatland County’s agricultural industry, Wheatland County industry and business, federal, provincial, and municipal governments, Wheatland County staff and Council, environmental non-government organizations, and Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils.

REFERENCES

External

This policy commitment will support compliance with regulatory and non-regulatory environmental requirements that are applicable to Wheatland County’s operation. These requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Agricultural Operation Practices Act, RSA 2000, c A-7
- Alberta Land Stewardship Act, SA 2009, c A-26.8
- Alberta Wetland Policy, 2013
- Canadian Navigable Waters Act, RSC 1985, c N-22
- Environmental Protection Act, RSO 1990, c E.19
- ~~• Alberta~~ Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, RSA 2000, c E-12
- Fisheries Act, RSC 1985, c F-14
- Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994, SC 1994, c 22
- ~~• Alberta~~ Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26
- ~~• Alberta~~ Public Lands Act, RSA 2000, c P-40
- ~~• Alberta~~ Soil Conservation Act, RSA 2000, c S-15
- South Saskatchewan Regional Plan 2014 – 2024, amended May 2018
- Species at Risk Act, SC 2002, c 29
- ~~• Alberta~~ Water Act, RSA 2000, c W-3
- ~~• Alberta~~ Water for Life Strategy 2003, 2008 renewal
- ~~• Alberta~~ Weed Control Act, SA 2008, c W-5.1
- ~~• Alberta Wetlands Policy~~
- ~~• Alberta~~ Wildlife Act, RSA 2000, c W-10
- ~~• Calgary Region Airshed Zone Particulate Matter and Ozone Management Plan~~

DOCUMENT OWNER

Chief Administrative Officer