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**POLICY NO. 11.02**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

**TITLE: PEST CONTROL**

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**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Westlock County recognizes that a number of organisms, including but not limited to insects, mammals, birds, viruses, bacterium, fungi and nematodes, have been declared as pests or nuisances under the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta. These organisms represent a potential threat to agricultural operations within Westlock County and throughout Alberta. Its obligations under the *Agricultural Pest Act* aside, Westlock County sees great merit in taking steps to prevent, control and remove declared pests in the County and to encourage everyone in Westlock County to do the same.

**PURPOSE:**

To clarify to residents Westlock County's role in dealing with declared pests – organisms that have been declared as pests or nuisances by the Province of Alberta.

**DEFINITIONS:**

***Nuisance*** means an organism declared as such in the *Agricultural Pests Act* and its regulations,

***Pest*** means an organism declared as such in the *Agricultural Pests Act* and its regulations,

***Westlock County*** means the municipal corporation, Westlock County.

**POLICY:**

1. Westlock County's Agricultural Services will
  - (a) provide information to residents, ratepayers and stakeholders on appropriate pest prevention and management practices and programs,
  - (b) implement programs to limit the spread of established pest organisms, and
  - (c) endeavor to prevent new pests from entering the region.
2. Westlock County Council appoints an independent appeal committee at the beginning of each year to review and make decisions on appeals submitted by residents (see Policy 11.23).
3. Westlock County will ensure it appoints a sufficient number of pest inspectors to carry out its duties under the *Agricultural Pest Act (the Act)*.
4. The Manager of Agricultural Services also serves Westlock County as its Agricultural Fieldman, appointed to the County as per the *Agricultural Service Board Act*. By virtue of the position, the Agricultural Fieldman is also a Pest Inspector under that Act.
5. Westlock County will provide appropriate identification to its duly appointed Pest Inspectors.
6. The Manager of Agricultural Services and other duly appointed pest inspectors at Westlock County will conduct pest inspections, monitor and deal with outbreaks, keep records, and perform any other duty assigned to them in the *Act*.
7. A Pest Inspector may issue a notice to a landowner of any parcel of land in accordance with the *Act*, if the Inspector believes the land has a pest or requires measures be taken to prevent a pest from entering.
8. Westlock County Pest Inspectors will encourage landholders to be proactive in controlling pests on their property. Pest Inspectors will also endeavor to advise and support landholders with advice and information on best practices for dealing with pests and preventing them.

9. Without restricting their powers set out in the *Act*, Pest Inspectors will endeavor to only use their powers of enforcement under the *Act* as a last resort or if circumstances warrant immediate action to effectively deal with a matter.

10. The attached Schedule A contains lists of organisms declared as pests and nuisances in Alberta.

MOTION: # 53/16

DATE: February 9, 2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Kelly  
Chief Administrative Officer

  
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Bud Massey  
Reeve

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## Schedule A

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### ***Agricultural Pests Act, Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation***

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#### **Pests**

#### **2 (1) The following continue to be declared pests throughout Alberta:**

- a) Bacterial ring rot (*Clavibacter michiganensis subs. sepedonicus*);
- b) Black leg of canola (the virulent strain) (*Leptosphaeria maculans*);
- c) Columbia River root knot nematode (*Meloidogyne chitwoodi*);
- d) Dutch elm disease (*Ophiostoma ulmi* and *Ophiostoma nova-ulmi*);
- e) Native elm bark beetle (*Hylurgopinus rufipes*);
- f) European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*);
- g) Dwarf bunt (*Tilletia controversa*);
- h) Fireblight and the causal bacterium (*Erwinia amylovora*);
- i) Flag smut of cereals (*Urocystis agropyri*);
- j) Golden nematode (*Globodera rostochiensis*);
- k) Grasshopper (*Locustidae*);
- l) Head smut of corn (*Spacelothecia reiliana*);
- m) Karnal bunt (*Tilletia indica* Mitra);
- n) Norway rat and any other rat species or strain derived from the genus *Rattus*;
- o) Potato wart (*Synchytrium endobioticum*);
- p) Stem and bulb nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*);
- q) Warble fly (*Hypoderma species*);
- r) White rot of onions (*Sclerotium cepivorum* Berk);
- s) Gypsy moth (*Porthetria dispar* L.);
- t) Africanized bee (*Apis mellifera adansonii*)
- u) Lesser grain borer (*Rhyzopertha dominica*)
- v) Rabies (*Rhabdoviruses*)
- w) Fusarium Head Blight (*Fusarium graminearum*)
- x) Chalkbrood (*Ascospaere aggregate*)
- y) Clubroot of canola (*Plasmodiophora brassicae*)

**(2) Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) is declared to be a pest where it is at large in Alberta.**

AR 184/2001 s2;150/2003;56/2007;64/2008

## Nuisances

### 3 (1) The following continue to be declared nuisances throughout Alberta:

- a) Coyote (*Canis latrans*);
- b) Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*);
- c) Richardson's ground squirrel (*Spermophilus richardsonii*);
- d) Franklin's ground squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*);
- e) Thirteen-lined ground squirrel (*Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*);
- f) Columbian ground squirrel (*Spermophilus columbianus*);
- g) Northern pocket gopher (*Thomomys talpoides*);
- h) Deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*);
- i) Meadow vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*);
- j) House mouse (*Mus musculus*);
- k) Bushy-tailed wood rat (*Neotoma cinerea*);
- l) English sparrow (*Passer domesticus*);
- m) Rock dove (*Columba livia*);
- n) European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*);
- o) Magpie (*Pica pica*).

(2) A horse (*Equus caballus*) is declared to be a nuisance where it is at large in any of the following wildlife management units, as described in

Schedule 9 to the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97):  
Wolf River Wildlife Management Unit (340);  
McLeod River Wildlife Management Unit (342);  
Wildhay Wildlife Management Unit (344);  
Shiningbank Wildlife Management Unit (346);  
Coalspur Wildlife Management Unit (438);  
Solomon Wildlife Management Unit (439);  
Adams Creek Wildlife Management Unit (440)  
AR 184/2001 s3;325/2009

