



POLICY NO. 11.03

FEBRUARY 9, 2016

TITLE: WEED CONTROL

POLICY STATEMENT:

Westlock County recognizes that a number of plant species have been declared as weeds under the *Weed Control Act* of Alberta. These plant species represent a threat or a potential threat, depending on the species, to agricultural operations within Westlock County and throughout Alberta. Aside from its obligations under the *Weed Control Act*, Westlock County sees great merit in taking steps to prevent, control or remove declared weeds 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 weeds within the County.

DEFINITIONS:

Act means the *Weed Control Act* of Alberta.

Noxious weed is a plant species declared as being so under the *Weed Control Act* or in a bylaw of Westlock County. Noxious weeds are required to be controlled under the Act.

Prohibited noxious weed is a plant species declared as being so under the *Weed Control Act* or a bylaw of Westlock County. Prohibited noxious weeds are required to be destroyed under the Act.

Weed means a plant species that has been declared

- a *noxious weed* by
 - regulation by the Province of Alberta, or
 - by bylaw by Westlock County,
- a *prohibited noxious weed* by
 - regulation by the Province of Alberta, or
 - by bylaw by Westlock County.

POLICY:

1. Westlock County Agricultural Services will
 - (a) provide information to residents, ratepayers and stakeholders on appropriate weed prevention and management practices and programs,
 - (b) implement programs to limit the spread of established weeds, and
 - (c) endeavor to prevent new weeds from entering the region.
2. Westlock County appoints an independent appeal panel annually to review and make decisions on appeals submitted by residents (see Policy 11.22).
3. Westlock County will ensure it appoints a sufficient number of Weed Inspectors to carry out its duties under 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 that position, the Agricultural Fieldman is also a Weed Inspector under that Act.
5. Westlock County will provide appropriate identification to its duly appointed Weed Inspectors.
6. The Manager of Agricultural Services and other duly appointed weed inspectors at Westlock County will conduct weed inspections, monitor and deal with outbreaks, keep records, and perform any other duty assigned to them in the Act.
7. A Weed Inspector may issue a notice to a landowner of any parcel of land in the County in accordance with the Act, if the inspector finds any non-compliance with the Act. Westlock County Council may also issue notices.

8. Westlock County Weed Inspectors will encourage landholders to be proactive in controlling weeds on their property. Weed Inspectors will also endeavor to advise and support landholders with advice and information on best practices for dealing with weeds and preventing their establishment.
9. Without restricting their powers set out in the Act, Weed 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 prohibited noxious weeds and noxious weeds in Alberta.

MOTION: #54/16

DATE: February 9, 2016



Peter Kelly
Chief Administrative Officer



Bud Massey
Reeve

Schedule A

Prohibited Noxious Weeds

1. The following plants are designated as prohibited noxious weeds in Alberta by the *Weed Control Act, Weed Control Regulation* (© Alberta Queen's Printer 2001):

autumn olive — *Elaeagnus umbellata* Thunb.
balsam, Himalayan — *Impatiens glandulifera* Royle
barberry, common — *Berberis vulgaris* L.
bartsia, red — *Odontites vernus* (Bellardi) Dumort
buckthorn, common — *Rhamnus cathartica* L.
cinquefoil, sulphur — *Potentilla recta* L.
crupina, common — *Crupina vulgaris* Pers. ex Cass.
dyer's woad — *Isatis tinctoria* L.
Eurasian water milfoil — *Myriophyllum spicatum* L.
flowering rush — *Butomus umbellatus* L.
garlic mustard — *Alliaria petiolata* (M. Bieb.) Cavara & Grande
goatgrass, jointed — *Aegilops cylindrica* Host
hawkweed, meadow — *Hieracium caespitosum* Dumort.
hawkweed, mouse-ear — *Hieracium pilosella* L.
hawkweed, orange — *Hieracium aurantiacum* L.
hoary alyssum — *Berteroa incana* (L.) DC.
hogweed, giant — *Heracleum mantegazzianum* Sommier & Levier
iris, pale yellow — *Iris pseudacorus* L.
knapweed, bighead — *Centaurea macrocephala* Puschk. ex Willd.
knapweed, black — *Centaurea nigra* L.
knapweed, brown — *Centaurea jacea* L.
knapweed, diffuse — *Centaurea diffusa* Lam.
knapweed, hybrid — *Centaurea* × *psammogena* Gayer
knapweed, meadow — *Centaurea* × *moncktonii* C. E. Britton
knapweed, Russian — *Rhaponticum repens* (L.) Hidalgo
knapweed, spotted — *Centaurea stoebe* L. ssp. *micranthos*
(Gugler) Hayek
knapweed, squarrose — *Centaurea virgata* Lam. ssp. *squarrosa*
(Willd.) Gugler
knapweed, Tyrol — *Centaurea nigrescens* Willd.
knotweed, giant — *Fallopia sachalinensis* (F. Schmidt Petrop.)
Ronse Decr.
knotweed, hybrid Japanese — *Fallopia* × *bohemica* (Chrtek &
Chrtková) J. P. Bailey
knotweed, Japanese — *Fallopia japonica* (Houtt.) Ronse Decr.
loosestrife, purple — *Lythrum salicaria* L.
medusahead — *Taeniatherum caput-medusae* (L.) Nevski
nutsedge, yellow — *Cyperus esculentus* L.

puncturevine — *Tribulus terrestris* L.
ragwort, tansy — *Jacobaea vulgaris* Gaertn.
rush skeletonweed — *Chondrilla juncea* L.
saltcedar — *Tamarix ramosissima* Ledeb.
saltlover — *Halogeton glomeratus* (M. Bieb.) C.A. Mey.
St John's-wort, common — *Hypericum perforatum* L.
starthistle, yellow — *Centaurea solstitialis* L.
tamarisk, Chinese — *Tamarix chinensis* Lour.
tamarisk, smallflower — *Tamarix parviflora* DC.
thistle, marsh — *Cirsium palustre* (L.) Scop.
thistle, nodding — *Carduus nutans* L.
thistle, plumeless — *Carduus acanthoides* L.

2. The following plants are designated as prohibited noxious weeds in Westlock County by bylaw by the municipal government of Westlock County:

(none declared by bylaw at this time)

Noxious Weeds

3. The following plants are designated as noxious weeds in Alberta by the *Weed Control Act, Weed Control Regulation* (© Alberta Queen's Printer 2001):

baby's-breath, common — *Gypsophila paniculata* L.
bellflower, creeping — *Campanula rapunculoides* L.
bindweed, field — *Convolvulus arvensis* L.
blueweed — *Echium vulgare* L.
brome, downy — *Bromus tectorum* L.
brome, Japanese — *Bromus japonicus* Thunb.
burdock, great — *Arctium lappa* L.
burdock, lesser — *Arctium minus* (Hill) Bernh.
burdock, woolly — *Arctium tomentosum* Mill.
buttercup, tall — *Ranunculus acris* L.
chamomile, scentless — *Tripleurospermum inodorum* (L.) Sch. Bip.
clematis, yellow — *Clematis tangutica* (Maxim.) Korsh.
cockle, white — *Silene latifolia* Poir. ssp. *alba* (Miller) Greuter & Burdet
daisy, oxeye — *Leucanthemum vulgare* Lam.
dame's rocket — *Hesperis matronalis* L.
henbane, black — *Hyoscyamus niger* L.
hoary cress, globe-podded — *Lepidium appelianum* Al-Shehbaz
hoary cress, heart-podded — *Lepidium draba* L.
hoary cress, lens-podded — *Lepidium chalepense* L.

hound's-tongue — *Cynoglossum officinale* L.
mullein, common — *Verbascum thapsus* L.
pepper-grass, broad-leaved — *Lepidium latifolium* L.
scabious, field — *Knautia arvensis* (L.) Coult.
sow thistle, perennial — *Sonchus arvensis* L.
spurge, leafy — *Euphorbia esula* L.
tansy, common — *Tanacetum vulgare* L.
thistle, Canada — *Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.
toadflax, Dalmatian — *Linaria dalmatica* (L.) Mill.
toadflax, yellow — *Linaria vulgaris* Mill.

4. 2. The following plants are designated as noxious weeds in Westlock County by bylaw by the municipal government of Westlock County:

(none declared by bylaw at this time)