



Yellowhead County

Policy No.: 3200.14

Topic: Road Allowance Brush Control	Effective Date: February 23, 2010
	Approved By: RES 086-02-23-10
Subject Area: Infrastructure Services	Date of Next Review: 2015
	Date(s) Revised: February 23, 2010

Policy Statement:

Yellowhead County being the road authority is responsible for the direction, control and management of all municipal roadways within its boundaries and recognizes that the control of trees on road allowances is necessary for public safety related to sight distance requirements, snow removal, drainage maintenance and other general roadside maintenance activities.

Purpose:

To provide guidelines and direction to ensure adequate control of the removal of trees along road allowances for the safety of the traveling public and to facilitate the proper maintenance of the roadways within the County.

Council principles:


1. The removal of trees along the road allowances will be carried out to the entire width of the road allowance.
2. At intersections, trees will be removed from the area designated to meet sight distance requirements and will generally involve removal of the boundaries of the road allowance for the designated distance along each leg of the intersection. This may also include removal on private property with authorization obtained by agreement with the landowner prior to removal.
3. On sections of roadway with significant horizontal curvature, additional removal may be required on the inside of the curve to establish proper sight distance.



Managerial Guidelines:

1. The County will control the trees within the road allowance within annual budget limitations.
2. Trees will be removed or controlled by cutting, mowing, spraying or by other mechanical equipment. Clearing debris will be disposed of by burning or removal from the site except where, in the opinion of the Director of Infrastructure, the debris is considered to be sufficiently chopped by the mowing operation.
3. In areas of residential or other concentrated types of development, approval may be obtained from the Director of Infrastructure to selectively leave trees in the ditch bottom or on the back slopes. Such approval will only be granted where the ditch bottom and back slope area is maintained by the adjacent property owner and where there is considered to be no safety hazard.
4. Where trees are controlled by spraying, extreme caution shall be exercised not to damage shelter belts, trees on private property or to contaminate water bodies. Trees that have been sprayed and are "browned off" or killed shall be removed as soon as possible.
5. A spray program will follow up areas where trees that have been previously mowed or otherwise removed and have some re-growth, if such a program is considered acceptable. Where spraying is not considered acceptable control of re-growth will be carried out by repeat mowing as necessary.
6. Any required spraying operations will be carried out by the County's Agriculture services. The Director of Infrastructure will maintain a liaison with the Agricultural Fieldman regarding proposals for the removal and control of trees in the road allowances in order to coordinate the activities of their two departments. For each year of the proposed program, they will jointly prepare a map outlining the intended removal and follow up control activities, showing the areas of responsibilities and sequence of activities.

Road Allowance Brush Control Policy 32.03 is hereby rescinded.



Gerald Soroka, Mayor

February 23, 2010

Date



Jack Ramme, Chief Administrative Officer

February 23, 2010

Date