

# 2016 CACHE COUNTY WEED CONTROL POLICY

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## **A. STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The Cache County weed control program will function and enforce in accordance with the Noxious Weed Act and Cache County code section 8:28 to organize, supervise, and coordinate a noxious weed control plan for Cache County including chemical and biological control practices.

## **B. ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETINGS**

The County Weed Board shall hold an annual coordination meeting each year prior to the start of the weed season. All organizations concerned with weed control will be invited to have a representative in attendance including the following agencies: Utah Department of Transportation, U.S. Forest Service, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, State Trust Lands, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, Cache County Extension, Union Pacific Railroad, PacifiCorp, Questar, irrigation companies and municipalities. Cache County personnel including Weed Department staff, the Road/Weed Foreman, and the Director of Development Services should be in attendance. Notice of the meeting shall be posted in compliance with County code and State Law.

The purpose of this meeting will be to inventory and record current problem areas, discuss and record any new infestations, discuss effective weed control efforts, discuss and coordinate county priorities with the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) priorities, and plan and organize the year's weed control program.

In addition to the annual coordination meeting, midyear meetings may be held to discuss pressing weed control issues such as new weed discoveries, weed law violations, and enforcement. A final meeting shall be held in the fall to inform the Weed Board of the activities of the Weed Department for the past weed season and to discuss possible county priorities for the CWMA the following year. The *Annual Weed Progress Report* with a summary of the results of the summer's activities shall be provided to the Weed Board.

## **C. WEED CONTROL SERVICE AREA**

Any individual, corporation, municipality, governmental agency, or organization owning, leasing, or controlling property within Cache County may request the services of the County Weed Department in accordance with weed control priorities established and approved by the Weed Board and the Cache County Council. All requests for agricultural crop spraying and residential yard and/or garden spraying will be referred to commercial applicators.

Property owners are encouraged to participate in weed control activities by locating, identifying, and controlling specific infestations on their individual properties. The County shall conduct weed control activities where required throughout the County. In the case of weed control adjacent to organic farms, the County shall actively spray up to the property boundaries including all County road rights-of-way and easements. The responsibility to provide a "no-spray" buffer remains on the property owner. If noxious weeds are present on organic farms, the property owner can opt to control said weeds in compliance with this policy, County code, and State law with non-chemical applications if the control is effective.

However, if the property owners are unable to control weeds in an appropriate manner, the property may be declared a public nuisance in compliance with County code and the weeds controlled accordingly.

#### **D. WEED CONTROL PRIORITIES**

1. Control of noxious weeds or any plant deemed a nuisance or hazard on property within the county.
2. Control of noxious weeds on steams, drainage, and irrigation systems. Also, control of non-noxious plants which impede the water flow in irrigation systems when that control can be accomplished as part of the noxious weed application.
3. Control of noxious weeds on non-crop land areas such as rangeland, wet pastures, fence lines, vacant land, right-of-ways, easements, county road sides, etc.

#### **E. CATEGORIES OF WEEDS**

For the purpose of organizing efforts and funding weed control programs, noxious and invading weeds are classified as follows:

##### **CLASS 1A EDRR WATCH LIST**

Qualifications for this class include. Common Crupina, African Rue, Small Bugloss, Mediterranean Sage, Spring Millet, Syrian Beancaper, North African Grass, Plumeless Thistle, Malta Thistle.

##### **CLASS 1B EARLY DETECTION**

Qualifications for this class include: Camelthorn, Garlic Mustard, Purple Starthistle, Goatsrue, African Mustard, Giant Reed, Japanese Knotweed, Vipers Bugloss, Elongated Mustard, Common St. Johnswort, Oxeye Daisy, Cutleaf Vipergrass.

##### **CLASS 2 CONTROL**

Qualifications for this class include: Leafy Spurge, Medusahead Rye, Rush Skeletonweed, Spotted Knapweed, Purple Loosestrife, Squarrose Knapweed, Dyers Woad, Yellow Starthistle, Yellow Toadflax, Diffuse Knapweed, Black Henbane, Dalmation Toadflax.

##### **CLASS 3 CONTAIN**

Qualifications for this class include: Russian Knapweed, Houndstounge, Broad-leaved Peppergrass (Tall Whitetop), Phragmites, Tamarisk (Salt Cedar), Hoary Cress, Canada Thistle, Poison Hemlock, Musk Thistle, Quackgrass, Jointed Goatgrass, Bermudagrass, Perennial Sorghyum ssp. (including but not limited to Johnson Grass) , Scotch Thistle (Cotton Thistle), Field Bindweed, Puncturevine.

##### **CLASS 4 PROHIBITED**

Qualifications for this class include: Cogongrass (Japanese Blood Grass), Myrtle Spurge, Dame's Rocket, Scotch Broom, Russian Olive.

## **F. NOXIOUS WEED SEED RESTRICTIONS**

It shall be unlawful for any individual or company to sell, offer, or expose for sale or distribute in the State of Utah any agricultural, vegetable, flower, tree and shrub seeds, or seeds for sprouting for seeding purposes which contain, either in part or in whole, any prohibited noxious weed seeds. "Prohibited" noxious weed seeds are the seeds of any plant determined by Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and food to be injurious to public health, crops, livestock, land, or other property. (Utah Seed Law, R68-8)

## **G. WEED CONTROL FEE SCHEDULE**

The following charges\* will be effective for the 2016 spraying season.

- 1) Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Grant Projects** – Projects where the Weed Department treats a State/County declared noxious weed and has received specific grant funding for the treatment of such. Cost of \$50.00 per Acre with a \$50.00 minimum charge.
- 2) Goatsrue Grant Projects** – Treatment of any areas invested with Goatsrue while grant funding is available. Cost of \$25.00 per acre with a \$50.00 minimum charge.
- 3) Non-Grant Qualifying or Enforcement Work** - Labor and Equipment at fully loaded and audited rates and Herbicide at full purchase price with a \$50.00 minimum charge.

\*Requests for services or contracts with Cache County Weed Department which; due to distance, terrain, special equipment/control requirements, or particular personnel needs; create expenses not anticipated in the above guidelines may be negotiated on an individual basis with the County.