

# HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE USE IN URBAN OPEN SPACES PROCEDURE

## 1. Scope

The Herbicide/Pesticide Use in Urban Open Spaces Procedure (this 'Procedure') applies to the application of herbicides and pesticides on Council controlled areas and roads in urban areas.

## 2. Purpose

Council utilises herbicides and pesticides in urban areas to control unwanted plants and pests which cause damage to Council's preferred plant species. This Procedure identifies Council's expectations regarding the application of herbicides and pesticides.

## 3. References (legislative/related documents)

### Legislative references

*Environmental Protection Act 1994*

*Land Act 1994*

*Work Health and Safety Act 2011*

*Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011*

### Related documents

Chemical (Hazchem) Management Directive

Chemical Risk Assessment Guideline

Herbicide/Pesticide Policy

Herbicide &

Insecticide Treatment Sensitive Areas Register'

## 4. Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Council	Livingstone Shire Council.
Council controlled land	Land under Council freehold ownership or Crown Land (reserve) managed by Council under trust or gazetted bathing reserve or gazetted foreshore. It also includes Council controlled road reserves and State Controlled Road reserves that are managed by Council.
Herbicide	A substance that is toxic to plants, used to destroy unwanted vegetation.
Herbicide application signage	Signage which states 'Weed Spraying Conducted Within Last 24 Hours', or 'Spraying in Progress'.

Pesticide	A substance used for destroying insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals.
Road	Has the same meaning as road in the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (Qld).
Survey 123	A map-based data gathering application for recording information on herbicide/pesticide treatments.
the Register	'Herbicide & Insecticide Treatment Sensitive Areas Register'.

## 5. Procedure

- 1) In addition to the provisions of this Procedure, Open Spaces will comply with the requirements of the Chemical (HAZCHEM) Management Directive to:
  - a) Reduce risks to the environment, public safety and amenity in urban areas associated with weeds and pests;
  - b) Ensure that appropriate herbicides, pesticides and associated dyes are selected and applied in accordance with legislative and manufacturers requirements; and
  - c) Ensure that Council's duty of care is fulfilled.
- 2) Open Spaces will not apply herbicides or pesticides when the wind speed is sufficient to cause drift spray into non-treatment areas.
- 3) Environment and Facilities will:
  - a) Undertake a risk assessment in relation to herbicide and pesticide applications adjacent to a school or community facility;
  - b) Appoint Council's Natural Resource Management section to undertake appropriate control measures of noxious plants in urban areas;
  - c) Undertake public notification when applying broad spectrum herbicides. The extent and method of public notification to be determined by the Manager Environment and Facilities;
  - d) Maintain the Register which will contain information on residents who have requested notification prior to application of herbicides/pesticides;
  - e) Comply with the notification requirements detailed in the Register; and
  - f) Recognise and implement where appropriate, ongoing improvements in technology, chemicals and work application practices.
- 4) Herbicide application signage is to be positioned in a visible location prior to application of herbicides in high public use areas and must remain in position for 24 hours after application. In addition, 'CAUTION SPRAYING IN PROGRESS' signage must be placed in the vicinity during the application of herbicides.
- 5) With the exception of hard surfaces such as pavement and median structures, compatible non-hazardous dye markers may be incorporated in all herbicide applications to:
  - a) Provide visual identification of the application area; and
  - b) Ensure an appropriate amount of herbicide or pesticide is applied and adequate coverage is achieved.
- 6) To ensure accurate recording and field data collection, Open Spaces Team Leaders will have access to Survey 123 and are required to record details of every herbicide/pesticide application.

## 6. Changes to this Procedure

This Procedure is to remain in force until otherwise amended/replaced or other circumstances.

## 7. Repeals/Amendments

This Procedure repeals the Livingstone Shire Council Procedure titled 'Herbicide/Pesticide Use in Urban Open Spaces Procedure (v2.1).'

Version	Date	Action
1.0	22/04/20214	Approved
2.0	11/07/2017	Amended Procedure Approved
2.1	04/12/2018	Administrative Amendments – reflect organisational restructure
3.0	12/02/2026	Full Review Undertaken – References, Definitions and Section 5 updated

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