

# SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



<b>Title: Mowing Program</b>		<b>Policy No.: 28-03</b>
<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code: P-R</b>	<b>Page No.: 1 of 3</b>

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<b>Legislation Reference:</b>	Alberta Provincial Statutes
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<b>Purpose:</b>	Smoky Lake County will govern the municipal mowing program on developed road allowances and County lands under the Agricultural Service Board.
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<b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>	
<b>1. STATEMENT:</b>	
1.1	Smoky Lake County will mow developed road allowances annually to maintain safe visibility for the travelling public and to improve drainage of infrastructure.
1.2	The mowing program promotes effective control of weeds and brush within the municipal right-of-way encroaching the roads surface.
1.3	The County will mow County lands on a as needed basis.
<b>2. DEFINITION(S):</b>	
2.1	<b>County Lands:</b> Property owned and/ operated by Smoky Lake County
2.2	<b>Developed Road Allowances:</b> Road allowances containing a gravel or hard surfaced roadway under the jurisdiction of Smoky Lake County.
<b>3. OBJECTIVES:</b>	
3.1	Define areas that will be mowed within the right-of-way and on County lands.
3.2	Provide the level of right-of-way mowing as set out by the Agricultural Service Board.
3.3	The County`s desire to achieve the following objectives with its roadside mowing program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ to assist with weed control by preventing the seed set of noxious weeds in the right-of-way and to cut any brush regrowth encroaching on the road</li><li>▪ to enhance road maintenance with minimal gravel loss and allow positive drainage of rainwater to be more efficiently channeled to the right-of-way</li><li>▪ to increase visibility of wildlife crossing and reduce obstructed visibility of signs at intersections for the safety of the travelling public</li><li>▪ to provide a fire break and reduce the amount of fire load material in right-of-way.</li></ul>

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<b>Section: 62</b>	<b>Code: P-R</b>	<b>Page No.: 2 of 3</b>

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#### Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- To prevent drifting on roads, where the blowing snow will travel across the road, rather than being trapped by standing vegetation which will travel across

#### 4. GUIDELINES:

- 4.1 The mowing program will be developed and planned by the Agricultural Service Board and implemented through the Agricultural Services Department. The defined mowing areas consist of three (3) zones, divided using range road 150 and Highway 855 as boundaries.
- 4.2 Ditch clean-up and equipment maintenance will commence 2 weeks prior to mowing program start date.
- 4.3 One-pass herbicide mowers will begin mowing operation the first week of June for more effective weed control. Non-herbicide mower operations will begin the last week of June. All mowing operations will cease no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 4.4 Mowing Operations consist of three (3) tractors and mowers used to cut grass, brush, and noxious weeds. These mowers are able to accomplish a significant amount of mowing and right-of-way clearing very efficiently when compared to other methods of mechanical control.
- 4.5 Without limiting the program or its effectiveness, it will generally be planned as following:
  - 4.5.1 Developed Road Allowances: All grassy areas along, oiled, or gravel roads will be mowed once a year mowing from roads edge to property line where conditions allow. Which may require several mowing passes to accomplish.
    - These secondary passes should be a minimum of 5ft.
    - Main roads into lake resorts will only be mowed prior to the July and August long weekends (two seasonal passes per year)
    - The Iron Horse Trail shall only be mowed once per season
    - It is recognized that inclement weather, such as rain and early winter could prevent completion of the program
- 4.6 All other mowing requests will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Service Board and added to **Schedule "A" Approved Additional Mowing**

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	May 24, 2018	# 581-18 - Page # 13130
Amended	October 22, 2018	#1030-18 - Page # 13312
Amended	April 13, 2021	



**SCHEDULE "A"**  
**APPROVED ADDITIONAL MOWING**

Metis Crossing

Smoky Lake Rodeo Grounds

Smoky Lake Air Strip

Hamlin Ball Diamonds

Waskatenau Ball Diamonds

Bellis Ball Diamonds

Bonnie Lake Enviro Reserve 7921626