

# COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19

## BALANCING RURAL HERITAGE WITH A DIVERSE ECONOMY

#### **POLICY OBJECTIVE**:

The County of St. Paul No. 19 desires to control prohibited noxious, noxious, brush and other bushy weeds in collaboration with residents who engage in organic production or who desire to enter into a Do Not Spray Agreement with the County.

#### **POLICY STATEMENT:**

### A) <u>Road Side Spraying – Do Not Spray Agreement</u>

- 1. The County of St. Paul will advertise the "Do Not Spray" program, prior to the beginning of the spraying season.
- 2. Owners or occupants can enter into agreements with the County to ensure that no spraying occurs adjacent to their property. This agreement must be signed before April 30 of every year to ensure no spaying is done by the property.
- 3. The owner or occupant will be assigned the duty of maintaining the portion of the roadway that lies between the boundary of their property and the centerline of the road allowance, free from all prohibited noxious, noxious, brush and bushy weeds.
- 4. The owner or occupant agrees that if any prohibited noxious, noxious, brush, or bushy weeds persists within the County right-of-way and are determined by the Agricultural Fieldman or their designate to be unacceptable, then the owner or occupant of the adjacent "No Spray" area may be notified by the County of St. Paul that they shall have a set period of time in which to control the weeds in a manner acceptable to the Agricultural Fieldman or their designee, failing which, the County may take whatever steps it deems appropriate to control these weeds, which may include herbicide application. The area my be sprayed without notification if the weed or brush problem is deemed to be a severe problem.

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- 5. The owner or occupant understands that the municipal right-of-ways shall not be used as buffer zones for sensitive area(s) or vegetation or any kind of organic certification/setbacks.
- 6. A minimum of two signs per property are required. The signs will be placed at the start of the property not to be sprayed and at the end of the property. The County will provide the signs to be posted at no charge to the resident. The owner or occupant is responsible to repair, replace, and display the signs in a visible location from the roadway in collaboration with the Agricultural Services Department.
- 7. "No Spray" signs must be displayed adjacent to the requested "No Spray" area or located at the corners of the property on the property line adjacent to the County roadway (approximately twenty (20) feet in from neighbouring properties). "No Spray" signs must be fixed to a separate post at a height of no less than three (3) feet and no more than six (6) feet off the ground in an area visible from the road and facing oncoming road traffic.
- 8. It is the responsibility of the owner or occupant to ensure clear visibility of the signs from the road during the months of May through October and further, to inform the County of St. Paul Agricultural Services Department annually of their intentions regarding continued participation prior to April 30, or at any time that there is a change in property ownership or occupancy.
- 9. The County will advertise the Do Not Spray Program annually in local newspapers.

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19 DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD COUNCIL APPROVAL: MARCH 10, 2015