

Pesticide Use Notification Plan

Adopted: July 2023



murray river
council





murray river council

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Office Locations

Barham Office

15 Murray Street, Barham
Open: 9am-4pm Monday-Friday

Mathoura Visitor and Business Centre

Cobb Highway, Mathoura
Open: 9am-4pm Monday-Friday

Moama Office

52 Perricoota Rd, Moama
Open: 9am-4pm Monday-Friday

Moulamein Business Centre

Morago St, Moulamein
Open: 9.30am-1pm Monday-Friday

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AREA OF OPERATION

Local Control Authority Area of Murray River Council.

PLAN PERIOD

Start Date: Upon adoption.
Completion Date: 3 years after adoption.

1. Introduction

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017.

The aim of this plan is to meet the community's general right to know about pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by Murray River Council. The plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid contact with pesticides if they wish. Council ensures that pesticides are applied to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community & the environment.

The plan sets out how council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications made by council to public places.

The plan describes:

- what public places are covered by the plan.
- who regularly uses these public places and an estimate of the level of use.
- how and when council will provide the community with information about its Pesticide applications in public places (i.e. what notification arrangements will be used).
- how the community can access this plan and get more information about council's notification arrangements.
- how future reviews of the plan will be conducted.
- contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan with council.

This plan forms a component of the council's integrated pest management policy. This policy states that the council only uses pesticides in public places when necessary to eliminate Priority weeds, to protect public property from pest damage, and to protect users of public places from nuisance or danger.

The majority of pesticide use consists of applying herbicides for weed control and applying insecticides to manage certain insect pests. Frequency of programmed applications range from 1-4 times per year for aquatic weeds, 6-8 times per year for sports fields, 4-6 times per year for parks and gardens, and 1-6 for public thoroughfares. Bait insecticides are used for termite and ant control to protect structures and public safety, wherever this is considered an effective solution. Other pesticides used include fungicides, rodenticides, and large vertebrate baits. Further information on the council's pesticide use can be obtained by calling the Biosecurity Coordinator on 1300 087 004 or by visiting the website www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

2. Public places covered by this plan

Murray River Council proposes to use or allow the use of herbicides in the following categories of outdoor public places within this council's local government areas:

- Public parks & playgrounds & picnic areas
- Sporting fields, ovals & related sporting facilities
- Cemeteries
- Reserves (Council managed)
- Councils laneways and pathways
- Road verges and reserves
- Easements accessible to the public
- Council drains
- Swimming pools
- Interior of Council's public buildings
- Any Crown Land in trust to council
- Waste management centres
- Recreational Reserves
- Council Waterways
- Sewer treatment plants and pump stations.

Murray River Council's estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is summarised in the following table.

Public Place	Regular User Groups	Level of Use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Used
Public Parks and Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young families • Elderly people • General recreational users (eg. joggers, dog walkers, bush walkers, cyclists, picnickers) • Visitors to area 	Very High (frequent use by multiple users, with short to medium length stays)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Fungicide (usually garden beds) • Spray termiticides, ant control • Bait termiticides, ant control

Public Place	Regular User Groups	Level of Use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Used
Picnic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families Other social groups (eg. ethnic, religious groups) Visitors to area 	High (particularly on weekends, public holidays and school holidays)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Bait rodenticides Fungicide (usually garden beds) Spray termiticides Spray ant control Bait termiticides Bait ant control
Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children groups Young families Visitors to area 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Spray ant control Bait ant control
Sporting Fields, Ovals and Related Sporting Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting clubs and associations School sports groups General recreational users groups (eg. joggers, dog walkers) 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray of bait termiticides on facilities Rodenticides near facilities
Cemeteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families Funeral attendees 	Low to High subject to funeral occurrence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Fungicide (usually garden beds) Spray ant control Bait ant control Large to medium vertebrate baiting

Public Place	Regular User Groups	Level of Use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Used
Rural Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting clubs and associations • General residents • Young families • Campers • Cyclists • Visitors to area • Anglers 	High subject to seasonal variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Bait and spray insecticide ant control • Large to medium vertebrate baiting
Urban Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents and visitors to the area • Campers/cyclists • Joggers/dog walkers • Anglers 	Low to Medium subject to seasonal variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Bait and spray insecticide ant control • Large to medium vertebrate baiting
Council Laneways and Pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents • People who work in the area • Visitors to the area 	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Bait ant control
Rural Road Shoulders, Verges and Road Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural land holders • General public/motorists • Stock managers • State Government contractors 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides • Woody weed stem injection • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Broadscale selective herbicides
Urban Roads, Streets and Roadside Furniture (eg culverts, curb & channelling,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents or visitors walking or driving on the road • General 	Medium to High for urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides • Spray and bait ant control • Spray and bait termiticides

Public Place	Regular User Groups	Level of Use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Used
footpath and trees)	recreational users (joggers, dog walkers)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot insecticides Broadscale non-selective herbicides Broadscale selective herbicides
Easements Accessible to the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents and people who work in the area 	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Broadscale non-selective herbicides Spot insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Bait ant control
Council Drains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents living adjacent to a drain; Local residents or visitors who walk or drive past a drain 	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides
Swimming Pool Buildings and Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents and visitors to area Sporting clubs and associations School sports groups 	High depending on seasonal variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Broadscale non-selective herbicides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spot insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Bait ant control
Interiors of Public Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young children and their carers (childcare facilities) Parents groups/playgroup Community associations 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bait rodenticides Spray termiticides Spray ant control Bait termiticides Bait ant control Spot insecticides

Public Place	Regular User Groups	Level of Use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Used
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church groups • General members of the public • Public health staff 		
Crown Land in Trust to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campers • Bushwalkers • Recreation users e.g. fishing, bike riding, swimming 	Low to High depending on seasonal variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Bait and spray ant control
Landfill and Transfer Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractors • General public 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Spray and bait termiticides on facilities • Rodenticides near facilities • Bait ant control • Large to medium vertebrate baiting
Recreational Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per sporting fields • Passive recreational user groups 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Spray and bait termiticides on facilities

Public Place	Regular User Groups	Level of Use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Used
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rodenticides near facilities • Bait ant control • Fungicide (usually garden beds) • Large to medium vertebrate baiting
Council Waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushwalkers • Recreational users (eg bushwalkers, fishing, bike riding, swimming etc) 	Low to High depending on seasonal variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides
Sewerage Treatment Works and Pump Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractors 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot herbicides • Spot insecticides • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale non-selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Spray and bait termiticides on facilities • Rodenticides near facilities • Bait ant control • Large to medium vertebrate baiting

3. Notification arrangements

This section of the plan describes how and when Council will provide notice of pesticide use in public places. These notification arrangements are based on Council's assessment of:

- the level of usage of public places where herbicides may be used.
- the extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to herbicides (e.g. young children, sick, pregnant and elderly people) and are likely to use these areas regularly

- the extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with herbicides (such as picnic areas where food is consumed; sporting or other recreational activities that result in contact with the ground)
- the type of herbicides used.

Notice of herbicide use will be provided by one of, or a combination of the following:

- council's website www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au
- Signs
- Signs on vehicles
- Social media
- information on Council's website (which will describe programmed, reactive and emergency herbicide use in public places)
- newspaper advertisements distributed in the area
- letter box drop

Council will also allow persons and organisations to nominate to have their details placed on a register which would allow them to be notified of certain types of herbicides uses in particular places, as described in this section of the plan. Please see appendix D attached.

Instances where Council will not give notice of herbicides application:

Council uses some herbicides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home gardening). Council does not intend to provide notice for such herbicide applications other than by way of this description in this plan (or general information on Council's website). This will apply to minor control of spot weed/vegetation control using a wand or backpack/hand-held spray bottle and, volume sprayer and indoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans.

Notice will not be given of the following herbicides uses

- minor spot spraying of isolated priority weeds on Council controlled land with herbicides
- where herbicide is below a Schedule 6 for spot spraying only.
- emergency control work – signage only will be provided.

3.1. Outdoor Recreation Areas

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the following public place categories controlled by Council within the local government area (LGA):

- Public Parks and Gardens
- Playgrounds
- Picnic Areas
- Sporting Fields, Ovals and Related Sporting Facilities

- Cemeteries
- Waterways
- Rural and Urban Reserves
- Recreational Reserve

In these public places, signs will be provided to the general community near the application area or main entrance at the time of application and remain as long as described on the herbicide label, or any other legislative requirement for the following pesticide uses:

- broadscale selective herbicides
- broadscale non-selective herbicides
- broadscale insecticides
- fungicides
- spray termiticides and ant control
- bait termiticides (where part of an ongoing program, first use pesticide only)
- bait rodenticide (where part of an ongoing program, first use pesticide only)

Where any of the above pesticide uses occur adjacent to sensitive places (see definition of 'sensitive places', section 3.5) the occupiers will be provided with 48 hours prior targeted notice by phone, mail or letterbox drop (whichever is most practicable).

For playgrounds and picnic areas only, prior notice will be extended to seven days by placing signs for all the above pesticide uses. For these areas only, signs will also be placed for at least 48 hours after spot herbicide or insecticide use or placement of ant control baits.

For sporting fields, ovals and related sporting facilities, sporting groups and occupiers of adjacent sensitive places who register interest with council can also have notice of the above pesticide uses faxed or emailed at least 48 hours prior to application.

Information will be available to the general community on the council's website about the forward program for the above applications (updated every three months), and on the following pesticide uses in outdoor recreation areas:

- spot herbicides
- spot insecticides
- bait ant control.

3.2 Outdoor Public Thoroughfares and Certain Easements Accessible to the Public

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the following categories of public places controlled by Murray River Council

- Laneways, Pathways and Roadside Furniture
- Road Shoulders, Verges and Road Reserves
- Easements accessible to the public
- Drains

In these public places, information on the forward program for broadscale herbicide will be posted on council's website every three months.

Information on the programmed and reactive spot use of herbicides will also be posted on council's website every three months. Where programmed spot herbicide applications occur on outdoor public thoroughfares and the above easements, adjacent to sensitive places, and/or for parties who register interest with council, prior notice by mail or letterbox drop will be provided at least five days beforehand.

Notice will not be given where occupiers of properties adjacent to council public places use pesticides on parts of these public places near their properties.

3.3 Certain Council Buildings

For pesticide use in Council Chambers, Council owned Health Care Buildings, Swimming Pools, Community Halls and Centres and Childcare Facilities that are owned or controlled by Council, signs will be provided near the application area or main entrance at least 48 hours prior to application and remain for at least 48 hours afterwards for the following pesticide uses.

- spot use of insecticides
- bait rodenticides
- spray termiticides
- spray ant control

Information for the general community will be posted on Council's website every three (3) months on the following pesticide uses in the above Council buildings:

- bait termiticides
- bait ant control

In addition, five (5) days prior notice of all programmed pesticide use in Council Childcare Facilities will be given to operators of the facilities, where practicable the programmed use of pesticides in Council buildings will be carried out when the building is unoccupied.

3.4 Other Council Facilities

The notification arrangements described below will apply for the following categories of public place owned and/or managed by Council:

- Landfill and Transfer Stations
- Crown Reserves managed by or in trust to Council (that do not contain facilities that fall under other categories)
- Sewerage Treatment Works (pond areas)

In these places, information on the forward program for broad scale herbicide will be posted on Council's website every three (3) months.

Prior notice will also be provided by placing signs at the main entrance to these facilities 24 hours in advance of the application and for at least 24 hours after the herbicide or pesticide use.

3.5 Special Measures for Sensitive Places

Clause 39 of the Regulation defines a sensitive place to be any:

- school or pre-school
- kindergarten
- childcare centre
- hospital
- community health centre
- nursing home
- place declared to be a sensitive place by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

Special notification measures for programmed pesticide use in outdoor public places adjacent to sensitive places for each category of public place have already been noted.

For non-emergency reactive pesticide use in outdoor public places next to sensitive places, council will provide concurrent notice shortly before use to the occupier by phone, door-knock or letterbox drop, depending upon what is practicable.

If a pesticide must be used to deal with an emergency in an outdoor public place that is adjacent to a sensitive place, council will organise a door-knock in that sensitive place, preferably at least 30 minutes before, so people are aware that a pesticide is about to be used to deal with a dangerous pest infestation.

3.6 Emergency Pesticide Applications

An emergency pesticide application in a public place may be required to deal with biting or dangerous pests (such as rodents, wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or similar creatures). In these situations the council will, where possible, provide notice by posting signs nearby at the time of the application. If this is not possible, the council will provide information by contracting council on 1300 087 004, or members of the public can ask for information from the person applying the pesticide.

3.7 Pesticide Contractors and Lessees of Public Places

Where Council uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, Council will ensure that notification is made in accordance with the notification requirements of this Plan.

Where persons or organisations hold an existing lease on Council land that remains a public place and if they use pesticides in this area, Council will still require notification in accordance with the requirements of this Plan. The lessee must notify Council three (3) months prior to the application of the pesticide to all the required notifications. Current lease agreements with Council are held by:

- Picnic Point Caravan Park.

- Riverside Caravan Park.
- Liston Caravan Park.
- Barham Caravan Park.

4. What information will be provided

In accordance with division 2 clause 41(1) (h) of the NSW Pesticides Regulation 2017, notices of pesticide use must include all the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use
- the place where the pesticide is to be used
- contact telephone number and email address of the Council officer who people can contact to discuss the notice
- any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place of application specified on the product label or an Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) permit.

Signs will be of a standardised design that will be easily recognisable to the public and workers.

As already noted, Council's website will have a dedicated area that describes its programmed, reactive and, if practicable, emergency herbicide uses in public places with a link to this notification plan. The relevant website address will be publicised in rate notices and by regular inclusion in Council's regular quarterly newsletter.

5. How the community will be informed of this plan

Council will advise residents of the contents of this plan and its contents by:

- making a copy of the plan available for public viewing free of charge at Council's offices:
 - Barham Office, 15 Murray Street, Barham, 9am-4pm Monday-Friday
 - Mathoura Visitor and Business Centre, Cobb Highway, Mathoura, 9am-4pm Monday-Friday
 - Moama Office, 52 Perricoota Rd, Moama, 9am-4pm Monday-Friday
 - Moulamein Business Centre, Morago St, Moulamein, 9.30am-1pm Monday-Friday
- placing a copy of the plan on the Council website at www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au
- placing notices in local newspapers distributed in the area.
- Social media.

6. Future reviews of the plan

The notification plan will be reviewed every 3 years. The review will include:

- a report on progress of implementing the plan.
- placing the plan on public exhibition, with any proposed changes and calling for public submissions
- in the light of public submissions, making recommendations for alterations (if applicable) to the plan.

7. Contact details

Anyone wishing to contact Council to discuss the notification plan or to obtain details of specific details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

Biosecurity Coordinator
PO Box 906, Moama NSW 2731

Phone 1300 087 004

Email: admin@murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

APPENDICES

- A. Sample for pesticide notification.
- B. Notice of Intention
- C. Commonly Used Chemicals
- D. Application for Registration of Herbicide-Sensitive Individual / Or Area
- E. Map of Murray River Council LGA

Appendix A

Sample pesticide notification notice



Product: Grazon Extra

The purpose of the use: Treating Blackberry infestation.

Proposed dates of use: 1st to 9th December 2023.

The place of use: Horseshoe Lagoon, Moama.

Contact Details:

Biosecurity Coordinator
PO Box 906, Moama NSW 2731
Phone 1300 087 004
Email: admin@murrayriver.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

Warnings about limitations on the subsequent use of or entry onto the land specified on the approved label or pesticide permit: Nil

Appendix B

Notice of Intended Herbicide Application



Notice to residents of: _____

Date or dates of herbicide use:* _____

(*A range of dates may be used to cover short-term postponements.)

Full name of herbicide(s) & concentration: _____

The weeds/vegetation to be treated are: _____

Where the herbicide(s) will be applied: _____

Withholding period restrictions (if any): _____

Herbicide application method: _____

Name of Operator(s): _____

Date of this notice: _____

Anyone wishing to contact Council to discuss the notice or to obtain details of specific details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

Biosecurity Coordinator
PO Box 906, Moama NSW 2731
Phone 1300 087 004
Email: admin@murrayriver.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

Appendix C

Commonly Used Chemicals

CHEMICAL	CLASS	SCHEDULE	MINOR USE NOTIFICATION REQUIRED
BASTA	Herbicide	5	NO
CRUCIAL	Herbicide	5	NO
COLUMBUS	Insecticide	5	NO
ENVIRODYE	Herbicide	5	NO
ESPLANADE	Herbicide	5	NO
GRAZON EXTRA	Herbicide	5	NO
GRAZON DS	Herbicide	5	NO
HAMMER	Herbicide	5	NO
KAMBA M	Herbicide	5	NO
LONTREL ADVANCED	Herbicide	5	NO
METSULFURON 600	Herbicide	5	NO
OUT OF BOUNDS	Insecticide	6	NO
ROUNDUP BIACTIVE	Herbicide	5	NO
SELECT XTRA	Herbicide	5	NO
SPREADWET 1000	Adjuvant	5	NO
STARANE ADVANCED	Herbicide	5	NO
UPTAKE OIL	Adjuvant	5	NO
VIGILANT 2 GEL	Herbicide	5	NO
VORAXOR	Herbicide	5	NO
WEEDMASTER DUO	Herbicide	5	NO

Appendix D

Application for registration of herbicide-sensitive individual / or area.



To be registered with Murray River Council as an herbicide-sensitive Individual / or area, complete this application form. All the information in this application, is for Murray River Council information only.

I hereby request to be placed on the list of herbicide-sensitive individuals / or area.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL / OR AREA:

RESIDENCE ADDRESS / LOCATION:

TOWN:

DAYTIME PHONE:

DECLARATION OF AUTHORISED PERSON(S)

DATE:

I request that the individual / area named above should be placed on the list of herbicide-sensitive individuals / areas for the following reason/s

REASON/S

Appendix E

Map of Murray River Council LGA

