

POLICY NAME: PESTICIDE USE
POLICY REF: P04A
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBJECTIVES2
BACKGROUND2
DEFINITIONS2
RELATED DOCUMENTATION3
1. POLICY4
 1.1 Responsibility for Pesticide Applications4
 1.2 Acquisition of Pesticides5
 1.3 Requirements for the use of a Pesticide5
 1.4 Register of Pesticide Acquisitions and Disposals5
 1.5 Personnel Safety and Protective Equipment6
 1.6 Storage and Mixing of Pesticides6
 1.7 Control on Pesticide Applications7
 1.8 Disposal of Pesticides and Pesticide Containers8
 1.9 Medical Monitoring8
 1.10 Record keeping8
 1.11 Notification8
 1.12 Review of Policy8
APPENDIX 1: INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)9

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Ballina Shire Council Pesticide Use Policy are to:

- Maintain a safe and sustainable environment within the Ballina Shire Council area
- Protect human health by suppressing pests that threaten public health and safety;
- Reduce exposure of humans to pesticides;
- Reduce or prevent pest damage to property;
- Reduce environmental pollution;
- Reduce the costs of pest management;
- Prevent pests from spreading;
- Enhance the quality of life for those using Council property, and
- Reduce the reliance on pesticide use by Council through the application of Integrated Pest Management principles

BACKGROUND

Ballina Shire Council has prepared this policy to:

- guide the safe use of pesticides in public facilities within the shire,
- minimise pesticides used in public areas,
- promote the application of Integrated Pest Management for pest control, and
- ensure that the community is informed in relation to the use of pesticides by Council in public facilities within the shire.

DEFINITIONS

- Authorised Person(s)** is a person authorised to undertake pesticide applications on behalf of Council, and has achieved competency by way of training and assessment by a registered RTO in the safe use of chemicals, and can consist of Council staff, contractors, Far North Coast Weeds and appropriately certified environmental volunteers.
- Fumigant** is a pesticide that has a significant vapour pressure at normal temperature and pressure.
- Fumigation** is the process whereby a fumigant is released within a controlled target volume; it is one type of pesticide application.
- Integrated Pest Management** Integrated pest management refers to the process of pest control within a defined tolerance level by the use of

Pest	biological, physical and organisational factors, in addition to chemicals. See Appendix 1 for a more extensive definition. an unwanted biological entity; including animal, plant and microbe
Pesticide	a chemical (or mixture of chemicals) intended to be used for the selective control of pests. Pesticide does include chemicals used for the control of pests in buildings, in air systems, and in water systems.
Pesticide Application	is the dispersal of a pesticide over a target area or volume.
Pesticide Operation	includes any or all of the processes of pesticide acquisition, storage, mixing, application (including supervision of an application undertaken by a private pest control firm), and disposal.
RTO	Registered Training Organisation
Registered Training Organisation	is a vocational education organisation that provides students with training that results in qualifications and statements of attainment that are recognised and accepted by industry and other educational institutions throughout Australia.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- Council employees
- Councillors
- Community members
- Consultants/Contractors
- Far North Coast Weeds

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Legislation

- Pesticides Act 1999
- Pesticides Regulation 2009
- Occupational health and Safety Act 2000
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001

Australian Standards

- **AS 2476:** General Fumigation Procedures
- **AS 2507:** The Storage and Handling of Pesticides
- **AS 1940:** The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

Codes of Practice

- Workcover NSW Safe Use of Pesticides Including Herbicides in Non-Agricultural Workplaces; Code of Practice 2006, 2006 Workcover NSW

- National Code of Practice for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances [NOHSC:2007(1994)]
- National Code of Practice for the Labelling of Workplace Substances [NOHSC:2012(1994)]
- Code of Practice Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances at Work [WC00153]
- Code of Practice Labelling of Workplace Substances [WC00152]
- Code of Practice Managing Chemical Hazards in the Workplace [WC00964]
- Code of Practice Safe use of pesticides in non-agricultural workplaces [WC0042]

Ballina Shire Council Procedures/ Policies

- Ordering and Purchase of Chemicals (procedure)
- Pesticide Notification plan

1. POLICY

This Policy provides guidelines for the management of pesticide acquisition, storage, use and disposal by Ballina Shire Council. The Policy will prevent the unnecessary acquisition, storage and use of pesticides and ensure that such activity is safe to all persons, non-deleterious to the environment, and effective in pest control. This Policy covers all occupational pesticide use and the application of pesticide by Council staff and contractors. The Policy does not apply to the local domestic use of pesticide by individual members of staff.

1.1 Responsibility for Pesticide Applications**Responsibility of Council**

Council is responsible for all pesticide applications undertaken by Council staff, contractors, Far North Coast Weeds or appropriately certified environmental volunteers engaged by Council in public places and buildings that are owned or managed by Council.

It is the responsibility of the Council to ensure that such pesticide applications are only undertaken by authorised persons.

Responsibility of the Authorised Person

An authorised person is an employee of Council that, by way of qualification and training, or training and experience, is authorised to undertake pesticide applications as required for the management of pests in public places and buildings that are owned or managed by Council.

The authorised person shall undertake work in a manner that is safe for all persons. It is the responsibility of the authorised person to inform management of any hazards associated with pesticide applications in their work.

It is the responsibility of the authorised person to refuse to undertake pesticide applications outside their expertise. If the task is outside their practical experience, it is the responsibility of the authorised person to seek guidance before undertaking the task.

Far North Coast Weeds will comply with the provisions of this Pesticide Use Policy when undertaking work on behalf of Ballina Shire Council.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Implementation

Each authorised person shall be responsible for implementing IPM practices. When pesticide applications are being considered this will be done by following the below IPM principles:

- Recording of all pesticide use;
- Coordinating pesticide application activities with pest control contractors;
- Approving appropriate pesticide application - methods, materials, timing, and location;
- Assuring that all of the pest control contractor's recommendations on maintenance and sanitation are carried out where feasible;
- Coordinate posting and notification of pesticide application where required; and
- Assuring that any pesticide use is done in accordance with this policy, the Pesticides Act 1999, and Council's Pesticide Notification Plan

1.2 Acquisition of Pesticides

Acquisition of pesticides must be carried out in compliance with Council's internal 'Ordering and Purchase of Chemicals' procedure.

In line with the above procedure all pesticides are to be purchased through Council's store, along with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and manufacturer Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS).

1.3 Requirements for the use of a Pesticide

The authorised person who acquires pesticides must ensure that the following requirements are met for any pesticide that is acquired:

- the pesticide is registered for use in NSW;
- the pesticide is supplied in the registered container and with the registered label;
- the pesticide (or a component) is not listed on Schedule 8 of the Commonwealth's "Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons";
- the pesticide (or a component) does not have an acute mammalian toxicity less than 5 mg/kg by ingestion or less than 10 mg/kg by dermal absorption; and
- no pesticide shall be acquired or held without a MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET for that pesticide being obtained and kept for the use of authorised persons.

1.4 Register of Pesticide Acquisitions and Disposals

A register shall be maintained by each operational section of Council acquiring pesticides showing:

- the pesticides held by the section;
- the use to which each pesticide is to be applied;
- the maximum quantity of each pesticide that is to be held at any one time (six months supply is suggested as an appropriate guide to the maximum quantity held);
- the date and quantity at acquisition; and
- the date of complete use or disposal.

1.5 Personnel Safety and Protective Equipment

Safety of the pesticide user is influenced by both occupational and personal hygiene and by the availability of effective work systems for pesticide applications and emergency procedures.

Council shall supply the necessary facilities and equipment to allow the pesticide user to undertake their responsibilities with pesticides in a safe and healthy manner, and in particular, to comply with the requirements of AS 2507: 1998 with respect to personnel safety in regard to:

- protective equipment (which includes protective clothing),
- personal hygiene,
- emergency communication, and
- first aid.

Protective equipment shall be issued and personally fitted for each authorised person, who will be responsible for its cleaning and maintenance of that equipment. The Council shall provide laundry facilities for the protective clothing used in pesticide applications.

Protective equipment shall be stored in an enclosed cupboard or separate room in or adjacent to the pesticide facility.

1.6 Storage and Mixing of Pesticides**Facilities for the Storage and Mixing of Pesticides**

Pesticides are to be stored in a secure storage facility that meets the requirements of AS 2507:1998 and complies with the Pesticides Act 1999 and the Pesticides Regulation 2009. Each operational Section of Council will be responsible for the safe and correct storage of pesticides held within their section of operations. The facility will be designed for such activity and must :

- be an enclosed room or isolated structure not used for any other purpose than pesticide storage and mixing;
- have a leak proof and acid resistant flooring, banded to contain 150% of stored pesticide volume,
- be secure from entry by unauthorised persons;
- have signage on the external entry door including labelling regarding:
 - (a) class for poisonous substances,
 - (b) DANGER chemical Storage
 - (c) the Class subsidiary risk label for flammable liquids (if applicable), and
 - (d) NO SMOKING sign.

- have dilution ventilation, lighting (where necessary) and safety shower in accordance with AS 2507 within the structure or the immediate vicinity;
- have impervious storage racks or cupboards for pesticide storage;
- the following resources for use in a pesticide spill: waste bins marked "WASTE", solid absorbent (e.g. sand, lime, vermiculite, commercial absorbent) for absorbing a liquid spill, and heavy duty polythene bags for containing spilt dry material. Any flammable pesticides in the facility shall be stored in accordance with AS 1940.
- MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS for all pesticides used in the facility shall be provided and be available for the use of the authorised persons.
- personal facilities such as lockers (for storing personal clothing and property), lunch room, hand basin, showers, etc. shall be sited away from the pesticide facility.

Access to the Pesticide Facility

In routine circumstances, only authorised persons shall enter and work in the pesticide facility.

1.7 Control on Pesticide Applications

Pesticide applications

A pesticide application shall only be undertaken by an authorised person. Any person applying pesticides on Council grounds or buildings must be licensed or approved to apply pesticides and will be trained and knowledgeable in the principles and practices of IPM. Applicators (both Council staff and contractors) must follow statutory regulations, label precautions and must comply with the Council Pesticide Use Policy.

It is the responsibility of the section supervisor to ensure that any pesticide application undertaken by their section is done by an authorised person.

No pesticide application shall be considered without:

- a) justification of the need;
- b) definition of the target pest(s);
- c) application of the principles of Integrated Pest Management;
- d) documentation (in the material safety data sheet) of the toxicity, selectivity, specificity, persistence and biomagnification of the pesticide(s) to be used; and
- e) consideration of the effect of the pesticide application on employees and on the environment.

A pesticide application in a public place or habitable building shall be undertaken only after compliance with the Ballina Shire Council Pesticide Notification Plan and established work practices which include:

- a) notification of intent to undertake a pesticide application;
- b) control of the target area to ensure it is people-free during pesticide application;
- c) prior plan for the pesticide application (e.g. isolation of inlet/outlet air of building, security from entry, clearance of animals/foodstuffs/cosmetics, application method details, etc); and

d) confirmation of the target area safety before re-entry.

Pesticide applications undertaken by authorised persons employed by Council shall be recorded on a pesticide application sheet where required and stored by Council's Records Section

1.8 Disposal of Pesticides and Pesticide Containers

All pesticide disposals shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Act 1999.

All mixed pesticide that is unused after an application shall be retained and used as part of the next batch made up. It would be most effective for each pesticide to be used and retained in a dedicated applicator.

All empty pesticide containers must be triple rinsed and punctured. The rinse water shall be stored in the dedicated applicator for that pesticide and used to make up the next batch. The rinsed pesticide containers shall be disposed of according to the procedures specified by the staff of the Ballina Shire Council's Waste Management Services.

1.9 Medical Monitoring

Where required Council will undertake a health monitoring program of authorised pesticide users.

1.10 Record keeping

Where required by current legislation Pesticide application records will be kept current and accessible to verify the application of pesticides. Pesticide records shall be maintained by the authorised persons and shall meet the requirements of state and federal legislation. A copy of all pesticide application record sheets will be maintained in accordance with Council's record keeping policies and procedures through Council's Records Section.

1.11 Notification

Where required, notification will be given of pesticide usage as prescribed in Ballina Shire Council's Pesticide Notification Plan.

1.12 Review of Policy

The Pesticide Use Policy will be reviewed every four years.

APPENDIX 1: Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**Definition of Integrated Pest Management**

Integrated pest Management is a decision making process that uses a combination of techniques to suppress pests effectively and in an environmentally sound manner. It includes the following elements:

1. planning and managing ecosystems to prevent organisms from becoming pests;
2. identifying potential pest organisms;
3. monitoring populations of pests and beneficial organisms, pest damage and environmental conditions;
4. using thresholds in making treatment decisions;
5. selecting the least disruptive approach to pest management
6. reducing pest populations to acceptable levels using strategies that may include a combination of appropriately timed biological, physical, cultural, mechanical, behavioral and when necessary chemical controls;
7. evaluating the effects and efficacy of treatment; and
8. training and educating staff and the community as to their role in to assist an IPM program.

(General definition of Integrated Pest Management, developed in 1994 by BC Environment in conjunction with the Public and stakeholders from agriculture and other sectors)

IPM Techniques

IPM relies on pest monitoring and the most economical and least hazardous combination of cultural, physical, biological, and/or chemical controls to prevent unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage.

When considering the best treatment for the management of a pest the full range of management options, including no action will be considered. The choice of using a pesticide is based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not acceptable or are not feasible. Non-pesticide pest management methods are used whenever possible.

When it is determined that a pesticide must be used, the least hazardous material and method of application will be chosen. Pesticide applications will be timed to minimise their impact on non-target areas. All pesticides including herbicides, insecticides fungicides, and rodenticides, will be handled according to state and federal law.

POLICY NAME: PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION PLAN
POLICY REF: P04B
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBJECTIVE	1
BACKGROUND	1
DEFINITIONS.....	2
RELATED DOCUMENTATION	3
POLICY	3
1. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN	3
2. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS	7
2.1 Where no notice will be provided	7
2.2 Outdoor recreation areas	8
2.3 Bushland on Crown Coastal Reserve and Council owned land.....	8
2.4 Outdoor Public Thoroughfares and Easements Accessible to Public ...	9
2.5 Council Buildings	9
2.6 Special measures for sensitive places	10
2.7 Council Service areas accessible by the public.....	10
2.8 Emergency pesticide applications.....	11
2.9 Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places	11
3. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED	11
4. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN.....	11
5. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN.....	12
APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PLACES IN BALLINA SHIRE	13
APPENDIX 2 - SENSITIVE PLACES REGISTER - BALLINA SHIRE.....	14

OBJECTIVE

This plan aims to meet the community's general right to know about pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by Ballina 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 or the environment.

BACKGROUND

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2009 (the Regulation). The plan sets out how Ballina Shire Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns and controls.

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 Ballina Council, where required by the pesticides regulation 2009. 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 or the environment.

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;
- the notification arrangements to be used - how and when Council will provide the community with information about its pesticide applications in public places;
- 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; and
- contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan with Council.

This plan forms a component of Council's Pesticide Use Policy. This policy states that Council is adopting an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to pesticide use. Minimising Council's use of pesticides, using the least toxic chemical option and only using pesticides in public places:

- when necessary to eliminate noxious, nuisance and environmental weeds;
- to protect public property from pest damage; and
- to protect the 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 pesticides applications range from:

- as required for sports fields;
- as required in parks and gardens;
- as required in public thoroughfares;

- as required drains, sewer pumps
- 1-2 times per year on roadsides
- as required in bushland and coastal reserves
- as required bait insecticides are used for termite and ant control to protect structures and public safety wherever this is considered an effective solution; and
- as required other pesticides used include fungicides, rodenticides, bird baits and large vertebrate baits. Individual locations may require a higher frequency of pesticide application eg spot spraying herbicides for weed control or spot spraying insecticides for insect outbreaks. Council will avoid applying pesticides during high use periods when possible.

DEFINITIONS

Bactericides	destroys, suppresses or prevents the spread of bacteria.
Baits	are ready-prepared products or products which need to be mixed with a food to control a pest, that contain a registered pesticide
Fungicide	is a pesticide that controls, destroys, renders ineffective or regulates the effect(s) of a fungus.
Herbicide	is a pesticide that destroys, suppresses or prevents the spread of a weed or other unwanted vegetation.
Insecticide	is a pesticide that destroys, suppresses, stupefies, inhibits the feeding of or prevents infestations or attacks by an insect.
Lure	is a chemicals that attract a pest to a pesticide for the purpose of its destruction.
Pest management technician	Is an authorised person under the definition of Ballina Shire Council's Pesticide Use Policy who through training and competency assessment by a registered RTO holds a qualification in the Safe Use of Pesticides, and or holds a qualification referred to in clause 9 (1) (b),(e) or (f) of the Pesticides Regulation 2009
Pesticide	Under the NSW Pesticides Act 1999, a pesticide is an 'agricultural chemical product' as defined in the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Cwlth), namely 'a substance or mixture of substances that is represented, imported, manufactured, supplied or used as a means of directly or indirectly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. destroying, stupefying, repelling, inhibiting the feeding of, or preventing infestation by or attacks of, any pest in relation to a plant, a place or a thing; or ii. destroying a plant; or iii. modifying the physiology of a plant or pest so as to alter its natural development, iv. productivity, quality or reproductive capacity; or v. modifying an effect of another agricultural chemical product; or vi. attracting a pest for the purpose of destroying it.'

Repellent: these repel rather than destroy a pest. Included in this category are personal insect repellents used to repel biting insects.

Rodenticides are pesticides used specifically for controlling rodents such as mice and rats.

RTO Acronym Registered Training Organisation

Registered Training Organisation is a vocational education organisation that provides students with training that result in qualifications and statements of attainment that are recognised and accepted by industry and other educational institutions throughout Australia.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- Council employees
- Councillors
- Community members
- Consultants/Contractors
- Far North Coast Weeds

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Legislation

- Pesticides Act 1999
- Pesticides Regulation 2009
- Occupational health and Safety Act 2000
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001

Policies

- Ballina Shire Council Pesticide Use Policy

POLICY

1. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Ballina Shire Council proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places within Council's local government area:

- parks and public gardens, playgrounds and picnic areas;
- sporting fields and ovals;
 - public land owned or controlled by the Ballina Shire Council including:
 - bushland on Council owned land and Crown Reserve managed by Council;
 - road verges and reserves;
 - laneways and pathways;
 - road, utility or other easements accessible to the public;
 - drains;

- sporting facilities e.g. swimming pools, skate parks;
- camping grounds;
- pump stations; and
- Council facilities - Ballina Airport and Waste Management Facility.

This plan also provides information on how notice is provided to the community of pesticide use in the interiors of the council buildings: Council Chambers, libraries, community halls/centers and childcare facilities. (See Appendix 1 for a list of Public Buildings and Places)

The following table summarises Council's estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and the type of pesticide used for each public place category.

Table 1: PESTICIDE USAGE ON, AND COMMUNITY USE OF, PUBLIC PLACES

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide which may be used
Public parks and gardens, picnic areas and playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and young families Elderly people General recreational users (e.g. joggers, dog-walkers, picnickers) Other social gatherings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very high (frequent use by multiple users, with short to medium length stays. Particularly on weekends, public holidays and school holidays. Other times High 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides or insecticides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Fungicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control Bait termiticides, Spray ant control Bait bird control Rodenticides
Sporting fields and ovals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting clubs and associations School sports groups General recreation users (eg joggers, dog walkers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very High on weekends High at other times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides or insecticides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides
Bushland areas on Crown Reserve and council owned land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents, visitors, families etc General recreational users (e.g. joggers, dog-walkers, picnickers) Other social groups Dunecares & Landcares 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides and pesticides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicide Aerial spraying of Bitou Bush with broadscale non-selective herbicide
Road reserves shoulders, verges, footpaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents or visitors walking, riding or driving on the road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium for urban roads Very Lower for rural roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides
Council laneways and pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents or visitors walking, riding or driving on the road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium for urban lanes and paths Lower for rural lanes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides
Easements accessible to the public (e.g. road, rail, water, sewer, electricity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents and people working in the area Tourists on scenic routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low to medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides
Drains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents living adjacent to drains Local residents of visitors who walk or drive past drains Children playing in drains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low to medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Broadscale non-selective herbicides
Swimming pool buildings and grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming clubs and associations School swimming groups General recreation users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides or insecticides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Fungicides Spray ant control Rodenticides

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide which may be used
Camping grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travellers Local residents, families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides or insecticides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Spray ant control Rodenticides
Sporting field amenity buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting clubs and associations School sports groups General recreation users (e.g. joggers, dog walkers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium to High 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot insecticides Broadscale insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Spray ant control Rodenticides Bait ant control Bait bird control
Interiors of public buildings (see Appendix)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library users eg children, schools, groups & the elderly young children & carers parents / playgroups community associations church groups members of the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot insecticides Broadscale insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Spray ant control Rodenticides Bait ant control Bait bird control
Cemeteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funerals Visitors to graves Walkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium to low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides or insecticides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Spray ant control Rodenticides
Airport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travellers and their family and friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium to low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides and/or insecticides Broadscale insecticides Spray and bait termiticides Spray ant control Rodenticides
Waste Management Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Users of waste facility <p>(Note minimum use in areas accessible to the public)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides
Pump stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents, walkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides and/or insecticides
Street sweeper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents, walkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium to high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot herbicides Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides

2. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

This section of the plan describes how and when Ballina Shire Council will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including special measures for 'sensitive places' that are adjacent to public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

These notification requirements are based on Ballina Shire Council's assessment of:

- the level of usage of public places where pesticides may be used;
- the extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (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 pesticides (such as picnic areas where food is consumed; sporting or other recreational activities that result in contact with the ground); and
- type of pesticide used.

Notice of pesticide use will be provided where required by The Regulation and or the Pesticides Act 1999, by a combination of the following methods dependent on the extent of pesticide use and location:

- signage at location of application, including signage on the vehicle used for application;
- information on Council's website (describing programmed, reactive and emergency pesticide use in public places);
- phone contact line ;
- information fact sheets for example, mailed with bill/rates notices;
- advertisements in the local newspaper or on the local radio station;
- mail outs to known users of public places;
- permanent signage;
- individual notification by e-mail, telephone, letter, fax, face-to-face contact (eg: door knocking) etc;
- community meetings; and
- responding to all reasonable requests for information.

2.1 Where no notice will be provided

Council uses small quantities of some pesticides 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 pesticide applications other than by way of this description in this plan. This will apply to such applications as minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans and spot weed control using a wand or hand-held spray bottle and or Knapsack spray unit.

Council does not intend to notify other than by way of this description in this plan for use of pesticides on enclosed council owned, operated, and/or managed land and council owned, operated, and/or managed land where public access is not authorised.

The following section of the plan identifies the specific notification arrangements for categories of public places and/or specific public places.

2.2 Outdoor recreation areas

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

- public parks and gardens, playgrounds, picnic areas, camping grounds; and
- sporting fields, ovals and related sporting facilities, swimming pools.

In these public places, where section **2.1 Where no notice will be provided** is not applicable, signs will be provided to the general community near the application area and/or main entrance on the day of spraying prior to the application and remain for the duration of the spraying or until the area is safe to be used by the public for the following pesticide uses:

- broadscale selective herbicides;
- broadscale non-selective herbicides;
- broadscale insecticides;
- spot spraying of herbicides
- spot spraying of insecticides
- fungicides (on the relevant garden beds);
- spray termiticides and ant control;
- bait termiticides (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only);
- bait bird control (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only); and
- bait rodenticide (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only).

Where practical, to indicate the presence of herbicides to the public, Council and contractors will use a visible non toxic, bio-degradable dye in spot spray operations in playgrounds, picnic areas, camping grounds and non-playing surface areas of sports fields. Council will notify the public of the procedure of using dyes where practical via its website and press releases.

For broad area spraying of sporting fields, ovals and related sporting facilities sporting groups and occupiers of adjacent sensitive places who register interest with Council can have notice of the above pesticide uses by e-mail or facsimile at least 24 hours prior to application.

Where any of the above pesticide uses occur adjacent to sensitive places (see definition of 'sensitive places', under subsection (e) Special measures for sensitive places) the occupiers will be provided with 24 hours prior targeted notice by a designated practicable method of contact (e.g. e-mail, phone, mail or letterbox drop) as agreed to between Council and the occupiers/users of the 'sensitive place'.

2.3 Bushland on Crown Coastal Reserve and Council owned land

A number of volunteer groups and contractors undertake a range of activities using herbicides within bushland reserves, broadscale and non-selective selective herbicides, spot spraying with herbicides and cut and painting with non-selective herbicides.

Where section **2.1 Where no notice will be provided** is not applicable, signs will be placed near the application area or at an appropriate main entrance point on the day of application, prior to application of pesticide and for the duration of the application.

Information on aerial spraying of pesticides is included as Appendix 4.

2.4 Outdoor Public Thoroughfares and Easements Accessible to Public

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the following categories of public places owned or controlled by Council within the LGA:

- laneways and pathways;
- road shoulders (including street sweeper), verges, road reserves and footpaths;
- sewer, pump station and electricity easements accessible to the public; and
- drains.

Where section **2.1 Where no notice will be provided** is not applicable, signs will be erected adjacent to the application sites during the period of application and on the vehicles applying the pesticides.

Reactive spot use of herbicides will be notified by the placement of warning signs during spraying or application.

Where programmed 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 email, mail or letterbox drop will be provided at least 2 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.

2.5 Council Buildings

Council routinely and reactively applies pesticides in public buildings. Pesticide use in Council chambers, Council owned libraries, community halls and centers and childcare facilities that are owned or controlled by Council, users will be notified at least 48 hours prior to application through signs near the application area or main entrance and remain until the completion of application.

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

Information on the above applications of pesticide in Council buildings used by the general community will be posted on Council's web-site every 6 months.

In addition, 2 days prior notice of all programmed pesticide use in Council childcare facilities will be given to operators of the facilities.

2.6 Special measures for sensitive places

Clause 18 (Part 5 Division 1) of the Pesticides Regulation defines a sensitive place to be any:

- school or pre-school
- kindergarten
- childcare centre
- hospital
- community health centre
- nursing home
- any place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) – now a part of the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

A list of Sensitive places for Ballina Shire is given in Appendix 2.

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 notice shortly before pesticide use to the occupier by e-mail, 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.

2.7 Council Service areas accessible by the public

The notification arrangements described below will apply to areas accessible to the public in the following places:

- Waste Management Facility; and
- Ballina Airport.

Information on Councils routine application program for pesticide use in the public areas of the Airport Terminal building and the Waste Management Facility will be posted on Council's website every six months. Signs will be placed before and during pesticide application and will be removed at the completion of spraying or when it is safe for the public to access the area again.

Council and contractors will use a visible non-toxic, biodegradable dye in weed spot spray operations in external public areas where appropriate.

2.8 Emergency pesticide applications

In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests that pose an immediate health hazard, such as ants, wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents, Council will provide notice by posting signs nearby at the time of the application. Council will also provide information via Council's main-switch-board 6686 4444 or by request to the person applying the pesticide.

2.9 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 by the leaseholder in accordance with the requirements of this plan.

3. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED

In accordance with clause 24 (Part 5 Division 3) of the Pesticides Regulation, notice of pesticides uses will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used, and
- the purpose for which the pesticide is to be used,
- the dates on which, or the range of dates during which, the pesticide is to be used,
- the places where the pesticide is to be used,
- The period (if any) during which the affected area should not be entered (but only if the approved label for the pesticide or the permit for use of the pesticide requires that such a period be observed,
- The contact details of the pest management technician who is to use the pesticide or of their office

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

4. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN

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

- making a copy of the draft plan available for viewing, free of charge, at its main office at corner Tamar and Cherry Street, Ballina and public library for 28 days;
- placing a copy of the draft plan on Council's website
- placing a notice and/or press release in the Sydney Morning Herald , Northern Star and Ballina Shire Advocate;
- placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette; and
- include a leaflet with rates notice advising residents of the plan and where they may view a copy;

A report will be prepared for Council for approval to exhibit the Draft Pesticide Notification Plan Comments from the public will be considered and the draft plan amended if appropriate. The final Pesticide Notification Plan will be presented to Council for adoption and gazetting.

5. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN

The notification plan will be reviewed every 4 years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PLACES IN BALLINA SHIRE

Ballina Council Public Buildings

Alstonville Leisure Centre
Amphitheatre
Ballina Shire Council Chambers
Visitor information Centre
Libraries – Ballina, Alstonville, Lennox Head
Richmond Room
Wardell Community Centre
Ballina Community Services Centre
Lennox Head Community Centre

Swimming Pools

Ballina Memorial Swimming Pool
Alstonville Aquatic Centre

APPENDIX 2 - SENSITIVE PLACES REGISTER - BALLINA SHIRE**Ballina Shire Public & High Schools, Tafe Colleges & Non-Government Schools**

ALSTONVILLE	
Alstonville Primary School 58 Main Street Alstonville NSW 2477 Ph 02 6628 0775 Fax 02 6628 5362	St Josephs School 11 Perry Street Alstonville NSW 2477 Ph 02 6628 1009 Fax 02 6628 1508
Alstonville High School Cawley Close Alstonville NSW 2477 Ph 02 6628 5222 Fax 02 6628 1223	
BALLINA	
Ballina Public School Crane Street Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 2205 Fax 02 6686 0692	Emmanuel Anglican College 62 Horizon Drive West Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6681 5054 Fax 02 6681 3704
Richmond Christian College Southern Cross Drive Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 7847 Fax 02 6686 7847	St Francis Xavier's Catholic Primary Swift Street Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 3370 Fax 02 6686 0244
Ballina High School Cnr Cherry and Burnet Streets Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 2133 Fax 02 6686 4235	Biala Special School 78 Fox Street Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 3395 Fax 02 6686 5810
Southern Cross School K-12 Chickiba Drive East Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 0503 Fax 02 6686 0508	Ballina TAFE Campus 154 Burnet Street Ballina NSW 2478 Ph 02 6686 1511 Fax 02 6686 2580
LENNOX HEAD / SKENNARS HEAD	
Lennox Head Public School 25 Byron Street Lennox Head NSW 2478 Ph 02 6687 7230 Fax 02 6687 7082	Holy Family Catholic Primary School 40 Isabella Drive Skennars Head NSW 2478 Ph 02 6687 5311 Fax 02 6687 5310
Xavier Catholic College 2 Redford Drive Skennars Head NSW 2478 Ph 02 6687 6484 Fax 02 6687 6828	

WARDELL	
Wardell Public School 20 Richmond Street Wardell NSW 2477 Ph 02 6683 4196 Fax 02 6683 4563	
WOLLONGBAR	
Wollongbar Primary School Simpson Avenue Wollongbar NSW 2477 Ph 02 6628 1302 Fax 02 6628 1976	Wollongbar TAFE Campus Sneaths Road Wollongbar NSW 2477 Ph 02 6620 4200 Fax 02 6620 4299
RURAL AREAS	
Cabbage Tree Island Infant School PO Box 135 Wardell NSW 2477 Ph 02 6683 4251 Fax 02 6683 4369	Empire Vale School River Drive EmpireVale NSW 2478 Ph 02 6683 4298 Fax 02 6683 4407
Fernleigh Public School Fernleigh Road Fernleigh NSW 2479 Ph 02 6687 8267 Fax 02 6687 8570	Newrybar Public School Pacific Highway Newrybar NSW 2478 Ph 02 6687 1343 Fax 02 6687 2072
Pearces Creek Public School Humpty Back Road Pearces Creek NSW 2480 Ph 02 6628 0586 Fax 02 6628 1962	Rous Public School Rous Road Rous NSW 2477 Ph 02 6629 5294 Fax 02 6629 5348
Teven / Tintenbar Public School 28 Fredericks Lane Tintenbar NSW 2478 Ph 02 6687 8210 Fax 02 6687 8086	

Child Care Centres and Kindergartens

Centre	Address	Town/Locale	Phone
Alstonville Baptist Preschool	108 Wardell Road	Alstonville	6628 0400
Alstonville Early Learning Centre	2 South Street	Alstonville	6628 3455
Alstonville Nestle In Child Care Centre	32 Wardell Road	Alstonville	6628 1837
Alstonville Out of School Hours	Main Street	Alstonville	6628 0608
Ballina Seeds Early Learning Centre	58-62 Westlands Drive	Ballina	6681 1122
Ballina Fox Street Preschool	Cnr Fox & Grant Sts	Ballina	6686 3340

Ballina Kiddi Care Centre	109Tamar Street	Ballina	6686 8208
Ballina Out of School Hours	30 Swift Street	Ballina	6681 1790
Family Day Care	75 Tamar Street	Ballina	6686 7799
Lennox Head Out of School Hours	Byron Street	Lennox Head	6687 4827
Lennox Head Community Preschool	Byron Street	Lennox Head	6687 7105
Rainbow Childrens Centre	4 John Sharp Street	East Ballina	6686 6621
River Street Childrens Centre	12 River Street	Ballina	6686 4615
St Annes	42 Isabella Drive	Skennars Head	6687 5961
Sugartown Community Preschool	54 Richmond Street	Wardell	6683 4267
Tintenbar Child Care	Phoenix Park, Teven Road	Tintenbar	6687 8770
Wollongbar Community Preschool	Simpson Avenue	Wollongbar	6628 3800
Wollongbar Little Angels	3 Smiths Lane	Wollongbar	6628 5127

Hospitals

Centre	Address	Town/Locale	Phone
Ballina District Hospital	Cherry Street	Ballina	6686 2111

Community Health Centres

Centre	Address	Town/Locale	Phone
Alstonville			6628 0849
Ballina			6686 8977

Nursing Homes

Centre	Address	Town/Locale	Phone
Alstonville Adventist Retirement Village	77 Pearces Creek Road	Alstonville	6628 1944
Ex- Services Home Ballina	7 Bentinck Street	Ballina	6686 2383
St Andrews Village Ballina	59 Bentinck Street	Ballina	6686 4633

POLICY NAME: (Review July Mtg)
PESTICIDE USE
POLICY REF: P04A
MEETING ADOPTED:
POLICY HISTORY: 251110/25; 231108/038



TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBJECTIVES	2
BACKGROUND	2
DEFINITIONS	2
SCOPE OF POLICY	3
RELATED DOCUMENTATION	3
POLICY	4
1.1 Responsibility for Pesticide Applications	4
1.2 Pesticide Regulation	4
1.3 Pesticide Procurement	4
1.4 Personnel Safety and Protective Equipment	4
1.5 Roadside Pesticide Free Areas	4
1.6 Review of Policy	4

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Ballina Shire Council Pesticide Use Policy are to:

- maintain public health and safety within Ballina Shire
- reduce weeds and their impact from public areas
- reduce pests and their impact from public buildings
- minimise environmental pollution
- inform the public of pesticide use
- minimise the cost and use of pesticides where possible.

BACKGROUND

Ballina Shire Council manages an extensive and diverse range of public places that includes but is not limited to public reserves, road reserves, footpaths, cycle paths, bushland reserves, gardens, public buildings, playgrounds and operational lands.

Council has a responsibility to manage these areas to provide for:

- a broad range of active and passive recreation opportunities for a diverse range of user groups, community members and visitors across the shire
- conservation of places of natural, cultural and heritage value
- public and visual amenity
- the delivery of council services and maintenance.

Across all these land uses, weed and pest control programs are a management priority for Council and pesticides are an essential component of many of these programs. Pesticide use is about balancing public safety against the benefits pest and weed control provide, to ensure the best outcome.

DEFINITIONS

Authorised Person is a person authorised to undertake pesticide applications on behalf of Council, and is qualified as per the Pesticide Regulation 2009 in the safe use of chemicals, and can consist of Council staff, contractors, Far North Coast Weeds and volunteers.

Pest an unwanted biological entity; including animal, plant and microbe

Pesticide a chemical (or mixture of chemicals) intended to be used for the selective control of pests. Pesticide does include chemicals used for the control of pests in buildings, in air systems, and in water systems. Pesticide also includes insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, algacides, rodenticides and molluscicides.

Pesticide Application is the dispersal of a pesticide over a target area or volume.

Pesticide Operation includes any or all of the processes of pesticide acquisition, storage, mixing, application (including supervision of an application undertaken by a private pest control firm), and disposal.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

- Council or Crown employees
- Councillors
- Community volunteers
- Person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU's), Contractors
- Lessees or licensees of Council or Crown premises
- Far North Coast Weeds.

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Legislation

- Pesticides Act 1999
- Pesticides Regulation 2009
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011

Australian Standards

- **AS 2476:** General Fumigation Procedures
- **AS 2507:** The Storage and Handling of Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals
- **AS 1940:** The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

Codes of Practice

- WorkCover NSW Code of Practice: Safe Use of Pesticides in Non-Agricultural Workplaces
- WorkCover NSW Code of Practice: Managing Risks of Hazardous Chemicals in the Workplace
- WorkCover NSW Code of Practice Labelling of Workplace Hazardous Chemicals

Ballina Shire Council Procedures/ Policies

- Pesticide Use Notification Plan
- Chemical Procurement Procedure

POLICY

This Policy covers all pesticide use by Council staff, contractors, Far North Coast Weeds and community members to ensure that such activity is safe to all persons and the environment and effective in pest control.

1.1 Responsibility for Pesticide Applications

It is the responsibility of Council to ensure that all pesticide applications are only undertaken by authorised and qualified persons.

1.2 Pesticide Regulation

Pesticide use must comply at all times with the Pesticide Regulation 2009 and other listed legislation. This is to include for the purposes of managing qualifications, safety, usage and recording.

Pesticide use must comply with Council's Pesticide Use Notification Plan at all times. This is for the purpose of notifying members of the community regarding pesticide use.

1.3 Pesticide Procurement

Pesticide use must comply with Council's Chemical Procurement Procedure at all times. This is to include for the purposes of managing the acquisition, storage, handling and disposal of pesticides.

1.4 Personnel Safety and Protective Equipment

Council shall supply the necessary facilities and equipment to allow the pesticide user to undertake their responsibilities with pesticides in a safe and healthy manner and to comply with the requirements of AS 2507 The Storage and Handling of Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals.

Where required, Council will undertake a health monitoring program of authorised pesticide users.

1.5 Roadside Pesticide Free Areas

Landholders may apply to maintain adjacent roadsides as pesticide free areas. The requirements are outlined in the Roadside Pesticide Free Area fact sheet.

1.6 Review of Policy

The Pesticide Use Policy will be reviewed every four years.

(Review July Mtg)
PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

1. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN..... 1

2. PESTICIDE USE PROGRAMMING 2

3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS 2

3.1 Notification Methodology..... 2

3.2 When Notification of Pesticide Use will not be provided 3

3.3 Special Measures for Notification to Sensitive Places 3

3.4 Requesting a Roadside Pesticide Free Area 3

3.5 Public Place Assessment, Pesticide and Notification Type Table 4

3.6 External Providers of Services to Council..... 6

3.7 Sites owned and/or shared by multiple government agencies..... 6

4. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED..... 6

5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN 6

6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN 6

INTRODUCTION

This Pesticide Use Notification Plan (the plan) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2009 (the Regulation). The plan sets out how Ballina Shire Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns and controls.

The plan aims to meet the community's general right to know about pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by Council. The plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid or minimise contact with pesticides, if they wish.

Council ensures that pesticides are applied, to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising potential harm to the community and the environment. Pesticides are used in public places when necessary to eliminate weeds, to protect public property from pest damage, to protect the users of public places from nuisance or danger, and to meet the community expectations for aesthetically appealing parks and public facilities.

Council is committed to ensure that pesticide use is justified, minimised and the lowest toxicity of pesticides necessary to achieve the desired outcome. Council will continue to investigate alternatives to pesticide use where available.

The plan sets out how Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications made by Council and its contractors in public places.

The plan describes:

- The public places that are covered by the plan.
- The types of users and visitors to these public places and their estimated level of use.
- How and when Council will provide the community with information about its pesticide applications in public places i.e. notification methods and channels.
- How the community can access this plan to obtain further information about Council's notification arrangements.
- How future reviews of the plan will be conducted, and
- Contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan with Council.

1. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Council proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places that it owns or controls within the Ballina Shire local government area:

- Public parks, reserves and other green open space areas
- Bushland reserves
- Playgrounds
- BBQ and picnic areas
- Sporting fields, ovals, courts and skate facilities
- Street trees, planter boxes and streetscape planting
- Civic spaces
- Campgrounds
- Road verges
- Outdoor swimming pool surrounds
- Footpaths, laneways and public roads

- Drains
- Public buildings
- Public toilets and car parks
- Grounds of public buildings and infrastructure.

2. PESTICIDE USE PROGRAMMING

Pesticide use on Council controlled land includes programmed or reactive applications.

The majority of pesticide use consists of applying herbicides for weed control and applying insecticides to manage certain insect pests. Frequency of programmed pesticides applications range from as required for sports fields, parks and gardens, public thoroughfares, drains, sewer pumps, bushland and coastal reserves to 1-2 times per year for roadsides.

Application of insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, nematode alternatives, soil additives, growth inhibitors and algaecides is also applied reactively to control pests on an as needs basis.

Baits are used to control outbreaks of vermin in public open spaces and to protect buildings and structures from damage by termites and soil pests.

3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

This section of the plan describes how and when Council will provide notice of pesticide use in the categories of public places, including special measures for sensitive sites that are adjacent to public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

Pesticide use notification arrangements are based on Council's assessment of:

- Level of usage of public places where pesticides may be used
- The extent to which members of the public that are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (eg. children) are likely to regularly use the areas
- The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides (e.g. picnic areas, active sports on fields etc)
- Types of pesticide used.

3.1 Notification Methodology

Notification of pesticide use will be provided using a combination of one or more of the following:

- Information on Council's website (describing programmed, reactive and emergency pesticide use) and the Pesticide Use Notification Plan
- Advertisements in the local newspaper or local radio station
- Signage erected at main entrances at location of application including on signage on vehicle at time of application (Noting that public signage is occasionally subject to removal and vandalism)

- Phone contact line
- Email notices of proposed pesticide use to registered sensitive places and sporting groups
- Notification by email, telephone, letter or face to face contact via door knocking
- Responding to all reasonable requests for information.

3.2 When Notification of Pesticide Use will not be provided

No notification for pesticide use will apply for usage of small quantities of pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes and include:

- Minor spot spraying of herbicides or insecticides by use of hand held or back carried sprayer or by cut and paint or stem injection techniques
- Insect, rodent and mollusc baiting in garden beds, tree bases, planters, indoor carparks and public toilets.

3.3 Special Measures for Notification to Sensitive Places

The Regulation defines sensitive places to include within 20m from the boundary of any of the following:

- School, pre-school, kindergarten or childcare centre
- Hospitals, community health centres or nursing homes
- Any place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority.

A sensitive place register will be maintained and when pesticide use is to occur within a sensitive place the following will apply:

- A minimum 5 days prior pesticide use notification will be provided and/or
- Emailed notification in advance of Council's Pesticide Use calendar. Sensitive places must maintain current email contacts with Council for accurate pesticide use calendar notifications.

When requiring emergency pesticide use for biting or dangerous pests within a sensitive place immediate prior notification will occur.

3.4 Requesting a Roadside Pesticide Free Area

Some land holders, such as primary producers with organic certification, may request that Council does not use pesticides on council road reserves around their property. Such a request may be approved by Council as outlined in the Roadside Pesticide Free Area fact sheet available on Councils website.

3.5 Public Place Assessment, Pesticide and Notification Type Table

Public Places	Regular User Groups	Level of Use	Type of Pesticide Used	Pesticide Use Notification
Parks and reserves, bushland reserves and other green open spaces areas	Residents & visitors Sporting Groups Passive recreational users Children and adults Schools Corporate and private Bookings and events hire Companion animals	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides – selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides Baits including molluscicides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Playgrounds	Children & adults Childcare & community groups Schools	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides – selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides	Small quantity non-notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
BBQ and Picnic Areas	Residents & visitors Sporting Groups Passive recreational users Children and adults Schools Corporate and private Bookings and events hire	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides – selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Sporting fields, ovals, courts and skate facilities,	Sporting groups Children & adults Active recreational users Schools	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides – selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply. Sports groups will be electronically notified.
Street trees, planter boxes & streetscape plantings	Residents and Visitors Passing by Walkers, cyclists, drivers	Low	Insecticides – contact Fungicides - contact	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.

11.7 Policy (Review) - Pesticide Use and Notification Plan.DOC

Ballina Shire Council

Pesticide Use Notification Plan

Public Places	Regular User Groups	Level of Use	Type of Pesticide Used	Pesticide Use Notification
Civic spaces	Residents and visitors Corporate & private bookings Companion animals	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides - selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Campgrounds	Residents and Visitors Children and adults	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides - selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Footpaths and cycle paths	Residents and Visitors Walkers, cyclists and drivers	High	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides - selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Road reserves and drains	Residents and Visitors Drivers	Medium	Insecticides - contact & systemic Herbicides - selective and non-selective/systemic & contact Fungicides/algaecides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Vehicle mounted signage will be used for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Outdoor swimming pool surrounds	Visitors and members of pool	Medium	Herbicides - selective & non-selective Insecticides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Public buildings, toilets, carparks	Families and children Residents and visitors	Medium	Herbicides - selective & non-selective Insecticides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.
Grounds of public buildings and infrastructure	Families and children Residents and visitors Council staff	High	Herbicides - selective & non-selective Insecticides Rodenticides	Small quantity non -notifications apply. Signage will be used at major entrances and until re-entry period has elapsed for major applications. Special measures for sensitive places apply.

Page 5 of 6

Plan/Policy No. P04B

3.6 External Providers of Services to Council

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 by the leaseholder in accordance with the requirements of this plan.

3.7 Sites owned and/or shared by multiple government agencies

In public places where multiple agencies have responsibility for land management on their land, and where there is no physically defined boundary, where the council is undertaking the pesticide application it will follow this plan.

4. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED

In accordance with the Regulation, notification of pesticide use will at least include the following six (6) areas of information:

- The full product name of the pesticide to be used.
- The purpose for which the pesticide is to be used.
- The dates on which, or the range of dates during which, the pesticide is to be used.
- The places where the pesticide is to be used.
- The period (if any) during which the affected area should not be entered (but only if the approved label for the pesticide or the permit for use of the pesticide requires that such a period be observed.
- The contact telephone number or email address for the Council officer whom people can contact to discuss the notice.

5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN

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

- Making a copy of the plan available for viewing, free of charge, at its Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina.
- Placing a copy of the plan on Council's website: www.ballina.nsw.gov.au.
- Placing a notice in the local press.
- Placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette.

6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN

The notification plan will be reviewed every 4 years or when circumstances require a review of the plan.

july 2015



Roadside Pesticide Free Areas

Council has developed this factsheet to assist landholders to consider, apply for and obtain consent to maintain a roadside pesticide free area.



Maintenance

As pesticides are an effective and economical method of controlling pests they are typically Council's preferred method of pest control throughout Ballina Shire.

It may be beneficial to some landholders, such as organic farmers to avoid the use of these chemicals around their property and maintain the roadsides themselves.

Due to the significant additional cost of alternative methods of weed control, where a 'Pesticide Free' area is approved, the pest maintenance of the area will become the responsibility of the applicant. Appropriate roadside maintenance is important for road safety, efficient drainage and service provision to the community.

Requirements

In order for a 'Pesticide Free' area to be approved by Council, the following requirements will need to be met:

- submit a completed Section 68 (Local Government Act) & Section 138 (Roads Act) application form
- provide payment of the application fee
- provide proof of \$20 million public liability insurance, covering all aspects of the works
- provide a traffic control plan developed by a suitably qualified person.

The applicant will also be required as a minimum to submit details of how they will maintain the roadside area and the following information will need to be provided with the application:

- aerial plan showing the requested roadside pesticide free area
- the proposed roadside maintenance methods that will be employed
- the proposed roadside maintenance schedule.

Managing Roadside Pesticide Free Areas

Landholder applications once assessed and approved will have the roadside pesticide free area placed on Council's register and pesticide use will cease.

Landholders will be required to maintain this area as per the approved application.

Failure to undertake this maintenance to Council's satisfaction will result in removal from the register and Council recommencing maintenance.

Further Information

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