



# Wildlife and Turf Maintenance Issues

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# References

- ➔ Best Management Handbook for Roadside Vegetation
  - ✘ Original handbook 1999
  - ✘ Update 2007
- ➔ FAA AC 150/5200-36
- ➔ AirTAP publications

# References

## → Best Management Handbook for Roadside Vegetation

- × Develop an integrated plan
- × Develop a public relations plan
- × Mowing policies
- × Sustainable vegetation
- × Noxious weed control
- × Living snow fences
- × Integrated construction and maintenance practices

# Sustainable Vegetation

## → Brush control guidelines

- ✘ don't spray big brush...cut down and chemically treat stumps
- ✘ Spray when trees and shrubs are small (< 6 feet tall)
- ✘ Mow smaller brush before spraying
- ✘ Spray in fall

# Sustainable Vegetation

- ➔ Tree care and pruning
  - ✘ When spraying, keep distance from desirable plants
  - ✘ Prune young trees every two years
  - ✘ Remove dead wood to prevent ice and wind storm breakage
  - ✘ Follow safety and OSHA standards

# Noxious Weed Control

- ➔ Use of cooperative Weed Management Areas
- ➔ Early detection is best....keep tabs on weeds
- ➔ Use an integrated approach
  - ✘ Dangerous traveler's video
  - ✘ Clean equipment
  - ✘ Stockpile cuttings
  - ✘ Use certified weed free materials
  - ✘ Minimize removal of native cover

# Noxious Weed Control

## ➔ Biological weed control

- ✘ Involves use of insects or pathogens to control weeds
- ✘ Best in large infested areas (use pesticides on small areas)
- ✘ Use for purple loosestrife, spotted and diffuse knapweeds, leafy spurge
- ✘ Contact MN DNR for more information ([luke.skinner@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:luke.skinner@dnr.state.mn.us))

# Noxious Weed Control

## → Herbicide application

- ✘ Use correct amount of oil or water as carrier
- ✘ Spray the undersides of leaves when possible to improve penetration
- ✘ Use wetting agent when spraying crabgrass, common mullein, mallows, and velvetleaf

# Noxious Weed Control

## → Herbicide application

- ✘ Spot spray, don't blanket spray. Apply using appropriate nozzles and low pressure, and use additives to increase droplet size
- ✘ Spray at the right time for each weed....apply foliar during rain-free periods to increase effectiveness, and root-absorbed directly after rain
- ✘ Spray during calm conditions to avoid drift
- ✘ Understand how herbicides work to optimize results

# Noxious Weed Control

## → Herbicide application

- ✘ See attached handout for Mn/DOT herbicide applications
- ✘ Use Dale Sutherland as a free resource, as well as Paul Walvatne
- ✘ See notes for precautions, handling, spills, and records

# Use of Living Snowfence

- May be appropriate for airport use
- See website at  
[www.dot.state.mn.us/environment/livingsnowfence](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/environment/livingsnowfence)
- Design example
- Contact Dan Gullickson at Mn/DOT for help

# Managing Wildlife

- See wildlife course summary
- See wildlife briefings
- Roadside vegetation handbook findings:
  - ✘ Use seed mixtures containing only non-attractive legumes
  - ✘ See Mn/DOT plant selector program at [www.plantselector.dot.state.mn.us](http://www.plantselector.dot.state.mn.us)
  - ✘ Use interceptor feeding techniques

# Advisory Circular

- Describes qualifications for wildlife biologist to conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments for airports
- Addresses minimum wildlife hazard management curriculum

Questions?