POLICY:-	
Policy Title:	Pesticide Use Notification Policy
File reference:	F11/135
Date Policy was adopted by Council initially:	14 December 2006
Resolution Number:	398/06
Other Review Dates:	21 July 2011
Resolution Number:	246/11
Current Policy adopted by Council:	19 September 2019
Resolution Number:	245/19
Next Policy Review Date:	2024
PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES:-	
Date procedure/guideline was developed;	
Procedure/guideline reference number:	
RESPONSIBILITY:-	
Draft Policy Developed by:	Director Environment and Planning
Committee/s (if any) consulted in the development of this policy:	Nil
Responsibility for implementation:	Director Environment and Planning
Responsibility for review of Policy:	Manager Regulatory and Biosecurity Services

CONTENTS

1.	**INTRODUCTION**	**3**
2.	**PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN**	**4**
3.	**NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS**	**9**
	• Advertisements	**9**
	• Signage	**9**
	• Road Verges and Laneways	**11**
	• Emergency Pesticide Application	**11**
	• Public Places and Pesticide Uses – No Notification	**11**
	• Pesticide Application Contractors and Lessees of Public Places	**11**
4.	**SPECIAL MEASURES FOR SENSITIVE PLACES**	**11**
5.	**HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED**	**12**
6.	**FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN**	**12**
7.	**CONTACT DETAILS**	**12**
	• Appendix 1	**13**
	• Appendix 2	**14**

PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). The plan sets out how Upper Lachlan Shire Council will notify members of the community of the pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns or 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 public authorities. 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
- 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 states that Council only uses pesticides in public places when necessary to eliminate weeds, to protect public property from pest damage and to protect the users of public places from nuisance or danger and for the beautification and maintenance of parks and reserves.

The majority of pesticide use consists of herbicides for weed management and in parks and gardens maintenance. A small proportion of pesticide is used to control and manage insect infestations and rabbits.

Where council uses small quantities of pesticides that are available from retail outlets and are ordinarily used for domestic purposes, Council does not intend to provide notice for such pesticide applications other than those that have been described in this plan. This will apply to minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol cans and spot weed control using a hand-held spray bottle.

Further information on pesticide use can be obtained by contacting the Upper Lachlan Shire Council WHS and Environment Coordinator on 4830 1000

2. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Upper Lachlan Shire proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places that it owns or controls:

- Public gardens
- Public parks, playgrounds and memorials
- Picnic areas
- Sporting fields and ovals
- Road verges and reserves
- Laneways and pathways
- Drains
- Golf courses
- Camping grounds and caravan parks
- Undeveloped reserves
- Swimming pools
- Cemeteries
- Tips
- Council administration buildings
- Council depots
- Council pounds
- Councils water and sewerage treatment works
- Street trees and gardens on nature strips
- Airfields
- Public Lands managed by Councils 355 Committees

This plan only covers regions within Upper Lachlan Shire Council *Appendix 1.*

Upper Lachlan Shire's estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places are summarised in the following table.

Public places	**Regular user groups**	**Level of use of public place**	**Type of pesticide use**
Public gardens	Day visitors including children and families; employees and contractors	High use area	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
Public parks, playgrounds and memorials	Day visitors including Children and families; employees and contractors	Variable – low in remote areas but often high in or near urban areas	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide
Picnic areas	Day visitors including children and families; Employees and contractors	Variable – low in remote areas but often high in or near urban areas	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide
Sporting fields and ovals	Sporting clubs and associations School sports groups General recreational users (e.g.joggers, dogwalkers) Council Employees and contractors	Seasonal – medium to high during relevant sporting season	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide
Road verges and reserves	Recreational users, motorists, employees and contractors, farmers with stock movements	Variable – low in remote areas but often high near urban areas	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Broad scale nonselective herbicides Broad scale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control
Laneways and pathways	Recreational users, motorists, Trades and business personal employees and contractors,	Variable low – to high depending on town and location	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Broad scale nonselective

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
	farmers with stock movements		herbicides Broad scale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control
Drains	Employees, contractors, recreational walkers	Low	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Broad scale nonselective herbicides Broad scale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control
Golf courses (owned or controlled by Council)	Club members, recreational users and grounds staff	High use area on competition days low to medium use for the rest of the week	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide
Camping grounds and Caravan parks(owned or Controlled by Council)	Individuals or groups staying for varying periods (days to weeks), employees and contractors	Variable and Seasonal i.e. low to very high use	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
Undeveloped Reserves	Local residents , visitors, Council employees	Low	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide
Swimming pool Buildings and grounds	Day visitors including Families, children, teenagers; employees and contractors	Variable and seasonal i.e. low to very high use	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective Herbicide
Cemeteries	Day visitors including children and families; employees and contractors	Medium	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide
Council Tips and Transfer Stations	General Public; employees and contractors	High use area	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broadscale selective herbicides Broadscale nonselective herbicides Broadscale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control Fungicide

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
External gardens at Council administration buildings	Day visitors including Shire residents, visitors; employees and contractors	High use area	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide
Council depots	employees and contractors	Low	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide
Council pounds	Staff and residents picking up animals	Low	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide
Councils Water and sewerage treatment works	Council Staff and contractors School group excursions	Low	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide
Street trees and gardens on nature strips	Local residents or visitors walking or driving on the road	Variable, depending on town and location	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide Fungicide
Airfields	Aviators Visitors Emergency Services personnel Ground maintenance staff	Low	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Broad scale nonselective herbicides Broad scale insecticides Spray termiticides, wasps & ant control Bait termiticides, ant control Bait rabbit, bird control
Public Lands managed by Councils 355 Committees	Visitors local residents, Council employees	Variable low to high depending on town and location	Spot Herbicide Spot Insecticide Broad scale selective herbicide Fungicide

3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

Upper Lachlan Shire Council will provide notification to the public of pesticide use in public places. This notification will involve the advertisements of Council's programs in local newspapers and newsletters and the placement of signage at and around the sites of application.

- **Advertisements**

Advertisements will be placed in appropriate newspapers and newsletters within the local area, advising of the approximate timing and purpose of programs and also providing a contact person and contact phone number where further information can be obtained or objections registered.

- **Signage**

Appropriate signage is to be displayed at the application site and also where practicable at sites to provide advance warning of the application site. These signs will provide information on the purpose of the application and the pesticide being used. The signs will include a contact person and contact phone number where further information can be obtained.

These notification arrangements are based on Council's assessment of;

- The level of use of the public place to be treated with pesticides
- Activities that could lead to direct contact with pesticides
- Type of pesticide used
- Signage at the application site

Notice of pesticide use will be provided by one or more of the following; Signage

- Advertisement in the local newspaper
- Information at Council administration buildings during business hours
- Door-knocking in emergency situations

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the following areas owned or controlled by Council;

- Public gardens
- Parks and playgrounds
- Picnic areas
- Sporting fields and ovals
- Swimming pools
- Sports stadium
- Cemeteries
- Shire Chambers
- Public lands managed by Councils 355 Committees

In these public areas information provided to the general public will be by signage and articles in local newspapers twice yearly which will specify the details of the proposed program. Signage will be in place during the application and persist for 24 hours after application of the following:

- Broadscale selective herbicides
- Broadscale non-selective herbicides
- Broadscale insecticides
- Broadscale fungicides

No notification will be given for the use of glyphosphate (roundup) other that the erection of signage for the duration of the application. Application will be means suitable for the area. This will be at the discretion of the spray operator.

Sporting associations or other user groups that express an interest in the sporting fields and ovals, will be given 48 hours notification before application by email or other method such as telephone.

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the following areas owned or controlled by Council;

- Road verges and reserves
- Laneways and pathways
- Aerodrome
- Crown reserves controlled by Council
- Street Trees on Nature Strips
- Council Tips

For these public places, information about Councils work program for broadscale herbicide and insecticide application will be placed twice per year in the local newspapers, as broadscale application of herbicide and insecticide only occurs at appropriate times of the year.

- **Road verges and laneways**

It is recognised that the application of pesticides on roadsides and laneways is normally a mobile operation travelling substantial distances during programs and in Upper Lachlan Shire this is regularly conducted in remote areas. During these programs signage as described in the Notification Arrangements will be located on the mobile spray unit and the advance warning signage will either be located on an escort vehicle or on the roadside where practicable.

- **Emergency Pesticide Application**

For emergency application of pesticides in public areas for dangerous insects, locusts and rodents that pose an immediate danger or threat, Council will, where possible, post signs in the vicinity of the application.

- **Public places and pesticide uses where Council will not provide any notification**

Remote laneways or roads where spot application of herbicides is required to control weeds, no notification will be required.

- **Pesticide Application Contractors and Lessees of Public Places**

Where contractors are used by Council to apply pesticides, Council will ensure notification is made in accordance with the notification requirements of this plan. Council requires the contractors to erect signage in accordance with the Pesticide Notification Plan.

Where persons or organisations hold an existing lease on Council land that remains a public place and if they use pesticides on this land, Council will request notification in accordance with the requirements of this plan. Council will not notify on their behalf. Council will request that signs will be erected by the organisations or persons holding the lease in accordance with this Pesticide Use Notification Plan.

4. SPECIAL MEASURES FOR SENSITIVE PLACES

Pesticides Regulation 2017 defines a sensitive place to be any:

- School or pre-school
- Kindergarten
- Childcare centre
- Hospital
- Community health centre
- Nursing home
- A place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

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, email, 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 (or within 150 meters) of 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 or plague pest infestation.

Council has develop a register of sensitive places and shire residents wishing to have their details include in the sensitive areas register may do so but they must provide an adequate reason and proof as to why that area of land should be included.

(See Appendix 2 for Sensitive places in the Upper Lachlan Shire area).

5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED

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

- Making a copy of the plan available for public viewing, free of charge, at Council offices at 44 Spring Street, Crookwell, 123 Yass Street, Gunning and the Taralga Post Office, Orchard Street, Taralga;
- Placing a copy of the Plan on the Council website;
- Placing a notice in Crookwell Gazette, Council News Letter, Goulburn Post, Lions Club of Gunning Notice board and the Yass Tribune.

6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN

The notification plan will be reviewed every 5 years or as circumstances require. The review will include:

- A report on the progress of implementing the plan;
- Public consultation on the notification methods outlined in the plan; and
- Recommendation for alterations (if applicable) to the plan.

The next review of this document will take place in 2024

7. CONTACT DETAILS

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

Ben Churchill
WHS and Environment Coordinator
44 Spring Street, Crookwell
Ph: 4830 1000

Appendix 1
Map of Upper Lachlan Shire

Appendix 2
Sensitive Areas within Upper Lachlan Shire

	Sensitive Area	Address	Contact Name	Contact number
1	Crookwell Hospital	Kialla Rd Crookwell 2583		4832 1300
2	Crookwell Public School	Denison St Crookwell 2583		4832 1213
3	Crookwell StMarys Primary School	Wade St Crookwell 2583		4832 1592
4	Crookwell High School	Crown St Crookwell 2583		4832 1421 4832 1422
5	Crookwell Pre School Kindergarten	Colyer St Crookwell 2583		4832 1083
6	The Health Care Centre	Kialla Rd Crookwell 2583		4843 2500
7	Doctor Surgery (Dr Thangavelu)	110 Goulburn St Crookwell 2583		4832 1006
8	Gunning and District Pre-School	37 Biala St, Gunning (PO Box 53) 2581		4845 1396
9	Gunning Primary School	Yass St Gunning 2581		4845 1129
10	Gunning District Community & Health Service	101 Yass St, Gunning (PO Box 50) 2581		4845 1166
11	Taralga Primary School	Orchard St Taralga 2580		4840 2047
12	Bigga Primary School	Binda St Bigga 2583		4835 2236
13	Binda Primary School	Queen St Binda 2583		4835 6052
14	Dalton Primary School	Jobson St Dalton 2581		4845 6210

15	Laggan Public School	Laggan Rd Laggan 2583		4837 3215
16	Taralga Play Centre	Orchard St Taralga 2580		4840 2300
17	Taralga Children's Centre	76 Hillas St Taralga 2580		4840 2220
18	Country Kids	King Rd Crookwell 2583		48322591
19	Collector Primary School	Goulburn Street Collector		48480024
20	Breadalbane Primary School	Collector Rd Breadalbane		48442243
21	Viewhaven Lodge	Laggan Road Crookwell		48322437
22	Sunset Lodge	Bannaby Street Taralga		48402167
23	Taralga Medical Centre	Bannaby Street Taralga		