

**MUNICIPAL YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN**

**VEGETATION MANAGEMENT CONTROL PLAN**

**TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE**

**2011**

Prepared and submitted by:

Ronald E. Trudeau Jr.  
Public Works Department  
Town of Southbridge  
185 Guelphwood Rd.  
Southbridge, MA. 01550

February 28, 2011

# MUNICIPAL YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN

This Yearly Operational Plan approved by the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources pursuant to the Rights-of-Way Management Regulations (333 CMR 11.00), has been adopted by the following Vegetation Management Program of the Town of Southbridge. The undersigned hereby acknowledges the conditions of the Municipal Roadway Vegetation Management Plan will be adopted and complied with.

MUNICIPALITY: Town of Southbridge

NAME: Ronald Trudeau

AGENCY: Southbridge Public Works Department

ADDRESS: 185 Guelphwood Rd.  
Southbridge, MA 01550

TELEPHONE: (508) 764-5403

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

WETLAND DELINEATION: \_\_\_\_\_

(Conservation Commission)



Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources , Pesticide Bureau, Right of Way Program, 251 Causeway Suite 500,  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2151.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of 333 CRM 11.00, Rights of Way Management, is to promote the implementation of integrated pest management techniques and to establish standards requirements and procedures necessary to minimize the rash of unreasonable adverse effects on human health and the environment associated with the use of herbicides to maintain streets. These regulations establish procedure, which guarantee ample opportunity for public and municipal agency review and input on the right-of-way maintenance plans.

A yearly Operational Plan or YOP must be submitted to the Department of Agriculture Resources every year herbicides are intended for use to maintain Right of Ways. The YOP provides a detailed program for vegetation management for the year. A five-year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) has been approved by the Department and is available for review at the Board of Health, Conservation Commission, and office of the Chief-elected official of the municipality.

Upon receipt of this YOP, the Department publishes a notice in the Environmental Monitor. The applicant must provide a copy of the proposed YOP and Environmental Monitor notice to the Board of Health, Conservation Commission, and the Chief-elected municipal official for the city or town in which the herbicide treatment is proposed. The Department allows a 45-day comment period on the proposed YOP beginning with publication of the notice in the Environmental Monitor and receipt of the YOP and Environmental Monitor notice by each municipality.

Public notification and herbicide application to the streets is made at least 21 days in advance of the treatment by a separate notice. Notice is made to the Department of Agriculture Resources, the Mayor, City Manager or chairman of the Board of Selectman, the Board of Health, a Conservation Commission , and the water division of the municipality where the streets lie. Any comments on this YOP should be directed to the contact person listed on page 6.

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**I. Individual supervising implementation and conditions of the YOP**

Name and Title: Ronald E. Trudeau Jr.  
Public Works Operations Manager

Department: Department of Public Works  
Address: Town Hall  
185 Guelphwood Rd.  
Southbridge, MA 01550

Telephone Number: (508) 764-5403

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **II. Municipal Department Performing Herbicide Treatment**

Southbridge Public Works Department.

Municipal employees will perform herbicide treatment under the direct supervision of Ronald E. Trudeau Jr. Operations Manager -D.P.W. Applicators are certified by the Department of Agriculture Resources in the applicator category.

Name and Title: Ronald E. Trudeau Jr. Public Works Operations Manager  
License Number: 17093 Categories: # 37 Turf and #  
40 Right of Way

Company: Town of Southbridge Department of Public Works

Address: 185 Guelphwood Rd.  
Southbridge, MA. 01550

Telephone Number: (508) 764-5403

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Herbicides Proposed including Application Rates, Carriers, Adjuvants

Herbicides that may be used on municipal roadways are limited to the following:

Trade Name	EPA Reg. No.	Active Ingredients	Guidelines
Razor Pro	228-366	Glyphosate	See Attached

The names and the active ingredients of the herbicides proposed and the names of any carriers, adjuvants or additives to be used. Herbicide Fact Sheets for the herbicides proposed are found in Appendix A.

Control Method	Herbicide(s) Mixture %	Carriers or Adjuvants	Application Rate/Acre
Foliar Treatment	2 oz/gal 3%	NA	NA

Control Method will be one of the following: hand cutting, mowing, foliar treatments, cut stump treatment, or selective trimming.

Cut stump treatment will be used when woody vegetation is persistent along hard to get areas such as guardrail. Woody vegetation such as small trees or resprouts will be cut close to soil surface. Application of Razor Pro would be applied to the entire cambium to ensure coverage at a rate of 50% solution using a squeeze bottle applicator. Application will be made right after the cut to the vegetation when it is in a actively growing state for best results.

#### **IV. Herbicide Application Techniques and Alternative Control Applications**

Roadway vegetation management will involve mechanical methods (sweeping, hand cutting, selective trimming and mowing) and chemical control (foliar herbicide treatments and cut stump treatments). The particular method(s) chosen will be based on a variety of factors to establish an easily maintainable plant population that will not interfere with vehicles or pedestrians. Emphasis will be given to the control tactic that will address the vegetation problems in the most environmentally sound manner and in a way to minimize vegetation control in the long term. The method chosen for given vegetation problems will attempt to achieve a long term, low maintenance vegetation management program.

Chemical controls include foliar treatments. Mechanical controls hand cutting, mowing and selective trimming. Refer to pages 6 & 7 of the VMP for detailed descriptions of these techniques.

## V. Identification of Target Vegetation

Target Vegetation along roadways is limited to vegetation, which poses a public nuisance and /or poses a risk to pedestrian or vehicular safety. Target vegetation and control methods intended are indicated below. For a full description of each target vegetation, refer to the VMP.

<u>Target Vegetation</u>	<u>Mechanical Control</u>	<u>Chemical</u>
<p><b>Public Nuisance Vegetation</b> poison ivy and other poisonous vegetation growing within 10 foot of roadway</p>		<p><b>low volume</b> low pressure foliar spray</p>
<p><b>Nuisance Grass -</b> stem density and height impedes movement or hampers visibility</p>	<p>selective trimming and mowing</p>	<p>low volume low pressure foliar spray</p>
<p><b>Vegetation Posing a Risk to Safety</b></p>		
<p>Vegetation hampers visibility or impedes movement along roads and trails</p>	<p>hand cutting and selective trimming</p>	<p>low volume low pressure foliar spray</p>

## **VI. Flagging Methods to Designate Sensitive Areas on the ROW**

Sensitive areas are identified as public ground water supplies, public surface water supplies, private drinking water supplies, surface waters, wetlands, inhabited areas and agricultural areas. For the purpose of identification, sensitive areas are separated into two categories, areas not readily identifiable in the field, and areas that are identifiable in the field.

Sensitive areas not readily identifiable in the field typically include public groundwater supplies, wetlands, private water supplies and public surface water supplies. In the case of Southbridge, there are no public groundwater supplies. The town is served by a public surface water supply located in the south-western portion of the town. The public ways within the watershed are Eastford Road south of Dennison Drive, and Breakneck Road south of Dennison Crossroad. These roads are designated as "No Spray Zones"

The remaining areas will be flagged and marked as "No Spray Zones" in the following manner:

### **FLAGGING METHODS**

Orange pavement marking paint will be used to identify "No spray zones" on pavement, granite curbing and sidewalks. They will be marked with an orange line and the letters NSZ.

Qualified SDPW personnel will flag the no spray zones prior to any spraying operation. Crews will be provided with street maps with no spray zones clearly marked.

Process of sensitive areas:

1. Areas to be sprayed were walked to determine sensitive areas
2. Questionable wetland areas will be checked by the Conservation Commission.
3. Board of Health records will be reviewed to locate wells of older homes in areas not served by the public water supply system that do not conform to today's stringent setback requirements. Homeowners were contacted in cases where no records were available.

## **VII. Procedures and Locations for Handling Mixing and Loading of Herbicide Concentrates**

All mixing and loading of herbicides will be conducted at the Operations garage. Only the amount of herbicide necessary as determined by monitoring results will be mixed to carry out the vegetation control. The vehicle carrying out the spray operation will be equipped with a bag of absorbent, activated charcoal, leak-proof containers, a broom and a shovel in case of minor spills. A clipboard log of the herbicides carried on the vehicle will be kept in the vehicle. Herbicide labels and fact sheets should be carried on-site by the applicator.

As soon as any spill is observed, immediate action will be taken to contain the spill and protect the spill area. The cause of the spill will be identified and secured. Spill containment will be accomplished by covering the spill with absorptive clay or other absorptive material or, for large spills, building clay or soil dikes to impede spill progress. Until completely clean, protection of the spill area will be accomplished by placing barriers, flagging or crew members at strategic locations. If a fire is involved, care will be taken to avoid breathing fumes from any burning chemicals and the Fire Department notified.

Minor spills will be remedied by soaking up the spill with absorptive clay or other absorptive material and placing it in leak-proof containers for proper disposal. Dry herbicide, such as granulars, will be swept up or shoveled up directly in leak-proof containers for proper disposal. All contaminated soil will be placed in leak-proof containers, removed from the Site, and disposed of properly. Activated charcoal will be incorporated into the soil at the spill location at a rate of seven pounds per thousand square feet to inactivate any herbicide residue. Any minor spill will be reported to the Pesticide Bureau.

Major spills will be handled in a similar manner as minor spills, except in cases where the spill cannot be contained and/or removed by the crew. In this case, the DEP Incident Response Unit and Pesticide Bureau will be contacted.

**VIII.        Emergency Contacts**

In the event of a spill or emergency, information on safety precautions clean-up procedures may be gathered from the following sources: -

Herbicide Label

Herbicide Fact Sheet

Herbicide Material Safety Data Sheet Herbicide Manufacturer

Nufarm Americas Inc.	(877)325-1840
Agrevo USA Co.	(800) 471-0660
Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau	(617) 626-1781
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	(617) 292-5500
Chemtrec	(800) 424-9300
EPA Pesticide Hotline	(800) 858-7378
Massachusetts Poison Control Center	(800) 682-9211
Local Police	911
Local Fire	911

## APPENDICES

### A. Streets to be treated in 2011

MAIN ST.  
ELM ST.  
EVERETT ST.  
FOSTER ST.  
CENTRAL ST.  
HAMILTON ST.  
GODDARD ST.  
CHAPIN ST.  
MARCY ST.  
SOUTH ST.  
WEST ST.  
HIGH ST.  
DRESSER ST.  
MECHANIC ST.  
WORCESTER ST.  
CHARLTON ST.  
EASTFORD RD.  
WOODSTOCK RD.  
PLEASANT ST.  
GUELPHWOOD RD.  
HOOK ST.

DUDLEY RIVER RD.  
DRESSER HILL RD.  
PAIGE HILL  
CLIFF ST.  
NORTH ST.  
CRYSTAL ST.  
PARK ST.  
SUMMER ST.  
PINE ST.  
EDWARDS ST.  
FRANKLIN TERRACE  
BLACKMERE RD.  
COOMBS ST.  
BREAKNECK RD.  
LAROCHELLE WAY  
GOLF ST.  
LOVELY ST.  
HILLTOP DR.  
HARTWELL ST.

### B. Herbicide Fact Sheets (attached)

- 1) Mass Department of Agriculture Resources (6 pages)
- 2) Razor Pro herbicide (16 pages)
- 3) Sensitive area restrictions guide (333 CMR 11.04)

### C. Town Map ( 1 Page)

