

Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) Town of Wellesley 2026

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Prepared By:

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Introduction

The purpose of 333 CMR 11.00, Rights of Way (ROW) Management, is to promote the implementation of integrated pest management techniques and to establish requirements and procedures necessary to minimize the risk of unreasonable adverse effects on human health and the environment associated with the use of herbicides to maintain streets, road, sidewalks, and paths. These regulations establish procedures that guarantee ample opportunity for public and municipal agency review and input on the right-of-way maintenance plans.

An annual Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) must be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) detailing the herbicides proposed for use in maintaining Wellesley's rights-of-way. The YOP outlines the specific vegetation management activities planned for the year. Upon approval of the five-year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) by MDAR, the plan will be available for public review at the offices of the Department of Public Works, Board of Health, Natural Resources Commission, and Select Board.

Upon receipt of this YOP, the MDAR publishes a notice in the Environmental Monitor. The Town will provide a copy of the proposed YOP and Environmental Monitor notice to the Town of Wellesley's Board of Health, Natural Resources Commission, and the Select Board. MDAR allows a 45-day comment period on the proposed YOP beginning with the publication of the notice and receipt of the YOP and Environmental Monitor notice by the Town.

Public notification of herbicide application to the rights of way is made at least 21 days in advance of the treatment by a separate notice. Notice is made to the Department of Agricultural Resources, Board of Health, Select Board, and the Natural Resources Commission in the Town of Wellesley.

Any comments on this YOP should be made to the person designated herein as the person supervising the YOP or the person performing the treatment.

Yearly Operational Plan

This Yearly Operational Plan, approved by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources pursuant to Rights-of-Way Management Regulations (333 CMR 11.00), has been adopted by the following roadway vegetation management program in the Town of Wellesley. The undersigned hereby acknowledges that the conditions of the Yearly Operational Plan will be adopted and complied with.

Municipality: Town of Wellesley

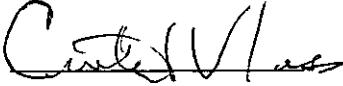
Name: Cricket Vlass
Superintendent, Wellesley Park & Tree

Agency: Department of Public Works

Address: 30 Municipal Way, Wellesley MA. 02481

Telephone / Fax: Tel. 781-235-7600, ext.3330 / fax: 781-431-7569

Email: cvlass@wellesleyma.gov

Signature: 

Date: 2/19/2026

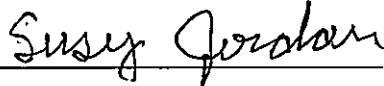
Individual Supervising YOP

Name and Title: Susy Jordan
Horticulture Technician, Park & Tree

Department: Department of Public Works

Address: 30 Municipal Way, Wellesley MA. 02481

Telephone: Tel. 781-235-7600, ext.3338 / fax: 781-431-7569
E-mail: sjordan@wellesleyma.gov

Signature: 

Date: 2/19/2026

Municipal Department Performing Herbicide Treatment

The Wellesley Department of Public Works will be performing pesticide treatments. The applicators are employed by the town and certified by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources in the Applicator core category with one individual holding a Pesticide license 40.

Company or Department: Wellesley Department of Public Works
Address: 30 Municipal Way, Wellesley, MA 02481
Telephone Number: 781-235-7600
Email: dpw@wellesleyma.gov

Proposed Pesticides and Surfactants to be Used for Program

The following information is provided as details of the YOP of the Town of Wellesley in accordance with the requirements of 333 CMR 11.06 (2):

Herbicide Proposed for Use in Calendar Year 2026 are:

Herbicides and Surfactant	Active Ingredient	EPA Reg.#	Mix Conc. Per Gal.
Garlon 4 Ultra	Triclopyr	62719-527	2-4%
Garlon 3A	Triclopyr	62719-37	2-4%
Lesco MSO	n/a	n/a	.5-1 oz

Garlon 4 Ultra / Corteva Agrisciences LLC: The application rate will be based on the type of application and targeted vegetation as prescribed by the manufacturer. Use of the Lesco MSO will be used as a surfactant with this product.

Garlon 3A/ Corteva Agrisciences LLC: Application rate will be based on the type of application and targeted vegetation as prescribed by manufacturer. Even though this product is listed as an aquatic herbicide, it will not be used on aquatic plants which are noted as sensitive areas located on the towns right-of-way vegetation management plan.

The Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and the herbicide fact sheets for the above-listed herbicides are attached to and made part of this YOP. Also, a map of the Sensitive Area Restrictions is included.

Herbicide Application Techniques and Alternative Control Procedures

The herbicide will be applied in accordance with the instructions in the attached manufacturer's information. Alternative mechanical control procedures that are used at the designated "No Spray Zones" and used as a means of control are hand saws, pruners, string-trimmers, and chain saws to control vegetation. Other alternative controls will include routine street sweeping along with road crack repairs and roadside mowing.

Vegetation managed with herbicide typically falls into two categories: low-growing herbaceous and vining species, and taller woody tree and shrub species. Foliar treatment will be applied only to vegetation less than twelve feet in height. This method has few limitations, except for reduced effectiveness in areas with tall, high-density target vegetation. However, these conditions are not anticipated under this YOP.

Herbicides are mainly used by the Wellesley DPW for control of invasive and public nuisance vegetation (vines) that are challenging to control manually. The foliar treatments will be applied to low-growing herbaceous or vining species by applying herbicide using a manual pump sprayer. This equipment has a low pressure/volume below 60 PSI at the nozzle for application. The herbicide solution will be applied to lightly wet the target plant.

On rare occasions, tree and shrub treatments will consist of cut-stump treatments by mechanical cutting of target species using hand saws/pruners or chain saws and immediately followed by herbicide applied by dauber on the freshly cut surface of the remaining stump. Cut stump treatments will be performed on tree/shrub species that are susceptible to re-sprouting growth. Where applicable, the hack and spray method will be utilized to control taller vegetation. Once the herbicide has translocated into roots, the above ground part of tree will be removed.

The Town is responsible for ensuring that vegetation management activities are conducted in a professional, safe, and efficient manner, with special attention directed towards minimal environmental impact. The Town's personnel are qualified, licensed, and certified to apply herbicides. "Qualified" means those applicators who have been trained to recognize and identify target and non-target vegetation and are knowledgeable in the safe and proper use of both mechanical and chemical vegetation management techniques. All applicators applying herbicides in Massachusetts must be licensed in the Commonwealth and work under the on-site supervision of a certified applicator. All applicators will also follow all Label instructions regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

All equipment used for vegetation management programs must be maintained in good working condition and should be of adequate design and ability to produce the professional quality of work that the Town requires. The Town applicators will provide the appropriate application equipment, calibrated to control target vegetation effectively and legally as to the recommended label requirements.

The Town will comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and the listed herbicide will only be applied in a safe and judicious manner. The Town will comply with but are not limited to OSHA, FIFRA, and DOT regulations, 333 CMR 1-15.00, Rights-of-Way Management, Chapter 132B, Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000 (see Appendix IV), and 321 CMR 10.00 as managed by NHESP.

Town applicators will, at all-times, exercise good judgment and common-sense during herbicide treatment activities and will immediately cancel operations if adverse conditions or other circumstances warrant.

Herbicides will NOT be applied during the following adverse weather conditions:

- A. During high wind velocity, per 333 CMR 11.03
- B. Foliar applications during periods of dense fog, or moderate to heavy rainfall
- C. Foliar applications of volatile herbicides during periods of high temperatures (90 plus degrees Fahrenheit) and low humidity
- D. Cut-stump applications when deep snow (i.e. 6" plus or ice frozen on stem or stump) prevents adequate coverage of target plants to facilitate acceptable control

The Town applicators must complete daily vegetation management reports that include:

- A. Name, date, and time of application and applicators license #
- B. Identification of site or work area
- C. Types of equipment and hours used, both mechanical and chemical
- D. Method of application and description of target vegetation
- E. Amount, concentration, product name of herbicide(s), adjuvants, and dilutants (EPA registration numbers must be on file)
- F. Weather conditions
- G. Notation of any unusual conditions or incidents, including public inquiries
- H. Recording and/or verification of sensitive areas on ROW map

Identification of Target Vegetation

When mechanical and manual methods become impractical to control weeds, it is the intention of the Town of Wellesley to spray problem vegetation on traffic islands and roadsides. Vegetation management crews will exercise care to ensure that low-growing desirable vegetation and other non-target organisms are not unreasonably affected by the application of herbicides. Treatments will be done with applicators using a backpack sprayer or a dauber to selectively treat problem areas, which will be posted at the time of application.

Different Types of Vegetation

Public Nuisance Vegetation

Public nuisance vegetation includes vegetation that grows along public roads and paths that cause allergies or other health problems, which currently is Poison Ivy.

Vegetation Posing a Risk to Safety

The vegetation that hampers visibility or impedes movement along roads and trails is considered to pose a risk to public safety. M.G.L. Chapter 87, Section 5 authorizes tree wardens to have control of "all public shade trees, shrubs, and growths" along public ways. The primary control methods we use are mowing, string-trimming, or pruning plants that interfere with traffic and visibility. However, due to topography, rate of growth, or other physical characteristics certain plant species might be controlled by herbicides or to prevent regrowth. When vegetation is less than 6 feet tall it may be foliar treated.

Invasive Vegetation

Invasive plants can aggressively colonize areas and are a threat to the biodiversity of our natural areas. Our first line of defense for managing and removing these plants is always by mechanical means of mowing, string-trimming or pruning. But invasive plants can be difficult to control by mechanical means alone. Herbicides can be a more effective way to control and eradicate invasives. Herbicides will be used as a last measure to control them.

Description of Methods Used to Identify Sensitive Areas

By following the Sensitive Areas as regulated by 333 CMR 11.04 as follows: '...any areas within Rights-of-Way, including No-Spray and Limited-Spray Areas, in which public health, environmental or agricultural concerns warrant special protection to further minimize risks of unreasonable adverse effects.'

All the town applicators will be issued a map to identify all the town's Sensitive Areas and "No Spray Zones" as defined in 333 CMR 11.04 during the application process. See attached map that has been created by the town's G.I.S. Department.

The Sensitive Areas Restriction Table as posted on this document defines specific sensitive areas and associated buffer zones and treatment restrictions such as limited-spray and no-spray zones. The attached map identifies 'Sensitive Areas Not Readily Identifiable in the Field'. With this map and the assistance of the Natural Resource Commission Agent, sensitive areas will be noted and marked along the ROW prior to any herbicide application.

Sensitive Areas Restriction Guide (333 CMR 11.04)

Sensitive Area	No Spray Area	Limited Spray Area	Where Identified
Wetlands and Water Over Wetlands	Within 10 feet (unless provisions of 333 CMR 11.04(4)(c) are followed)	10 – 100 feet. 12 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications	YOP Maps and identify on site
Certified Vernal Pool	Within 10 feet	10 feet to the outer boundary of any Certified Vernal Pool Habitat. 12 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications	YOP Maps and identify on site
Public Ground Water Supply	Within 400 feet (Zone I)	Zone II or IWPA (Primary Recharge Area); 24 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications	YOP Maps
	Within 10 feet of any tributary or associated surface water body located outside of the Zone A	10 feet to the outer boundary of Zone A. 24 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications	

Sensitive Area	No Spray Area	Limited Spray Area	Where Identified
	<p>Within 100 feet of any tributary or associated surface water body located within Zone A of a Class A public surface water source</p>	<p>Within a lateral distance of between 100 - 200 feet for 400 feet upstream of intake. 24 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications</p>	
Private Water Supply	<p>Within 50 feet</p>	<p>50 – 100 feet. 24 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications</p>	<p>In YOP well list and identify on site</p>
Surface Waters	<p>Within 10 feet from mean annual high-water line</p>	<p>10 feet from the mean annual high-water line and the outer boundary of the Riverfront Area. 12 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications</p>	<p>YOP Maps and identify on site</p>
Agricultural and Inhabited Areas	<p>N/A</p>	<p>0 – 100 feet 12 months must elapse between applications. Selective low pressure, using foliar techniques or basal or cut-stump applications.</p>	<p>Identify on site</p>
State-listed Species Habitat	<p>No application within habitat area except in accordance with a Yearly Operational Plan approved in writing by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife</p>		<p>YOP Maps</p>

Procedures and Locations for Handling, Mixing, and Loading of Herbicide Concentrates

The herbicide will be mixed in a controlled environment at the Wellesley Department of Public Works Facility, 30 Municipal Way, Wellesley, MA 02481.

Herbicides will be handled and applied only in accordance with the label instructions and with proper use of PPE also. The absorbent product "Speedi-Dri" will be available for use at the locations for any application spills. If there is a leak in the hose, the pump will immediately be shut off. The equipment used will be washed at the Department of Public Works Facility.

Although it is expected that all the mixed herbicides will be used, the remaining will be stored at Wellesley Park Garage in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Emergency Contacts

- Herbicide Manufacturer
Corteva Agriscience
Emergency: 800-992-5994
Press: #1) Human Exposure, #2) Spills, Fires, Accidents, #3) Animal Exposure, #4) Gen. Information
Gen. Info. #: 800-258-3033 Hours 8-5pm EST
Email: customerinfo@corteva.com
Website: corteva.com/us/

- Surfactant: Lesco MSO – Information: (800) 347-4247

- Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau: (617) 626-1781
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection: (888) 304-1133
- Chem Trec: (800) 424-9300
- Massachusetts Poison Control Center 24-Hour Hotline: (800) 222-1222
- Department of Public Health – Environmental Toxicology Program: (617) 624-5757
- Wellesley Fire Department: (781) 235-1300
- Wellesley Health Department: (781) 235-0135
- Wellesley Police Department: (781) 235-1212
- National Pesticide Information Center: (800) 858-7378
- National Animal Poison Control Center: (888) 426-4435

Appendix

Herbicide Labels

Garlon 4 Ultra

https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/agrian-cg-fs1-production/pdfs/Garlon_4_Ultra1p_Label.pdf

Garlon 3A

https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/agrian-cg-fs1-production/pdfs/Garlon_3A_Label1n.pdf

Herbicide MSDS sheets

Garlon 4 Ultra

https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/agrian-cg-fs1-production/pdfs/Garlon_4_Ultra_MSDS1vf.pdf

Garlon 3A

https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/agrian-cg-fs1-production/pdfs/Garlon_3A_MSDS1ip.pdf

Surfactant Label

Lesco MSO

https://www.siteone.com/medias/sys_master/PimProductImages/assets/ProductAssets/US/L/ESCO/labelAsset/cw-sf-400511-label-967937/cw-sf-400511-label-967937.pdf

Surfactant MSDS sheets

Lesco MSO

https://www.siteone.com/medias/sys_master/PimProductImages/assets/ProductAssets/US/L/ESCO/safetyDataSheet/rb-ue-msds-23962_641551_msds_5003-6sds-506636/rb-ue-msds-23962-641551-msds-5003-6sds-506636.pdf