



Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Inc

Volunteer Herbicide Spraying Policy

Policy

This policy sets out the procedures for herbicide spraying as a form of weed control by volunteers of Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare (CHRL).

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Outline the approval procedures for volunteers wishing to use herbicide spraying as a form of weed control.
2. Outline the requirements which must be met by volunteers approved to use herbicide spraying as a form of weed control.
3. Guard against inappropriate use of herbicide spraying.
4. Outline the procedure for complaints in connection with volunteers using herbicide spraying as a form of weed control.

Procedures

1. Volunteers wishing to use herbicide spraying as a form of weed control must apply for approval to do so by the CHRL Executive Committee.
2. In order to apply for approval, volunteers must complete an Expression of Interest form as supplied by CHRL.
3. If the CHRL Executive Committee deems the applicant's request for approval worthy, the Executive Committee will appoint a suitably qualified Assessor to meet with the applicant on-site to assess the proposed works and the applicant's experience and ability to perform those works.
4. Upon the Assessor's consent a trial period of three (3) months will commence, during which the applicant will perform spray works as directed by the Assessor.
5. The spray works performed during the trial period will be evaluated by the Assessor for considerations such as safety, effectiveness, accuracy, and off-target damage.
6. At the end of the trial period, the Assessor will make a recommendation to the CHRL Executive Committee for the approval or rejection of the applicant's request for permission to perform herbicide spraying.
7. Approval of a volunteer to use herbicide spraying as a form of weed control may only be issued after a motion is passed at an Executive Meeting.
8. A register of volunteers approved to use herbicide spraying as a form of weed control will be kept at the CHRL office.
9. Approval issued under this policy is non-transferrable: therefore other members of a volunteer group may not perform spray works unless they have received approval to do so under the terms of this policy.

10. Volunteers who receive approval to perform herbicide spraying must:

- a. Sign and return to the CHRL office a copy of this policy with a statement that the applicant understands and agrees to abide by the terms of this policy.
- b. Contact any relevant persons on the Coffs Harbour City Council chemical notification list prior to any spray event.
- c. Carry out and document a risk assessment of the site prior to commencing any spray work.
- d. Complete a record keeping sheet of all spray events in accordance with the requirements of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*.
- e. Display signage during all spray events in accordance with the requirements of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*.
- f. Wear all personal protective equipment required by CHRL and the relevant public authority.
- g. Hold all current licences as required by CHRL, the relevant public authority, and legislation.
- h. Use only those chemicals approved by CHRL and the relevant public authority.
- i. Use approved chemicals only in accordance with product labels and off-label permits.
- j. Dispose of any unused chemical in an approved, environmentally responsible manner.
- k. Provide CHRL with a copy of their completed risk assessment and record keeping sheet within 7 days of a spray event.
- l. You must not smoke or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while spraying.

11. Volunteers who receive a complaint from a member of the public while performing spray works must:

- a. Avoid escalation of conflict.
- b. Provide the person with a copy of the Material Safety Data Sheet for the chemical in use.
- c. Provide the person with the name and phone number of the CHRL Office.
- d. Refrain from making any statement on behalf of CHRL.

12. Approval under this policy may be revoked at any time by a motion passed at an Executive Meeting.

13. This policy will be reviewed every two years.

*CHRL Volunteer Herbicide
Spraying Policy
Adopted by CHRL Executive
Date: November 2013.....
Reviewed: 8th June 2017
Next review: June 2019*