

## Herbicide Policy

Purpose: To ensure the City's infrastructure and its Right of Ways (ROW) are adequately maintained with respect to form and function and provide an environment that protects the safety, health and welfare of the citizenry, the city will utilize various means as identified, recommended and statutorily approved by the Legislature and regulated through the State's Board of Pesticides Control to maintain the City's flora and fauna.

### Compliance with State Laws:

The City of Augusta shall comply with all applicable state laws, label directions and corresponding regulations as promulgated by the State of Maine, Board of Pesticide Control in carrying out the City's herbicide treatment programs. As developed by the State of Maine, Board of Pesticides Control the City will utilize Best Management Practices (BMP) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs in the management and care of the City's roadsides and green space. For additional information regarding the State's BMP and IPM go to:

<http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/index.htm> and or

<http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/schoolipm/>

### Treatment Season:

Herbicide and other pesticides applications will be performed seasonally based upon State of Maine, Board of Pesticides Control Best Management Practices or as the need arises in specific situations.

### Opt-Out Registry For Right of Way Herbicide Treatment:

Residents and businesses of the City of Augusta may opt-out of the Right of Way treatment program should they choose not to have the weeds treated chemically in front of their property. **Residents who chose to participate in this option will be required to register with the City's Public Works Department on an annual basis. These registrations must be received no later than April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.** The City registry would be in addition to the State of Maine opt-out registry program and does not supersede the State registry program. Some individuals may have to register with both the City and State Opt-Out Registry program. Properties that are tenant occupied either in single or multi-dwelling units are required to have the landlord who is the owner of record make application for the Opt-out program. Those who opt-out will be required to remove the weeds located in the City's Right-Of-Way (ROW) in front of the property they have requested not be treated. If a chemical either natural or synthetic is to be used, the application shall be done by a duly licensed applicator registered and licensed to do so in the State of Maine through the State's Board of Pesticides Control. Otherwise, mechanical means are required to remove weeds by the abutting property owner. Failure to remove the weeds may result in the City sending in staff to remove the weeds. The registrant will be notified in writing of the weed control deficiency and shall be given ten business days to remove the weeds. If the

weeds are not removed in the time frame stipulated, the City shall remove the weeds mechanically and invoice the opt-out registrant \$50.00 for the first 100 feet of ROW and \$1.00 for each lineal foot of the registrant's property length thereafter. The criteria by which the City will measure non-compliance are: if weeds in the ROW as of August 1<sup>st</sup> in front of the Opt-Out registrant's property are more evident as compared to abutting property weeds in the City's ROW. The non-compliance shall be digitally documented by the city taking photographs.

Notification:

As dictated and prescribed by Maine State law and regulations, the City will notify the residents and business of the City of Augusta when herbicide treatments will be done. Additional notifications will be made thru the City's website, local access TV channel and other means the city may deem appropriate to notify the community when herbicide treatments will be done.