



MONTGOMERY WEED CONTROL
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February 22, 2021

Pesticide Management Plan – Calendar Year 2021
For work done on Montgomery County Highway Services Division ROW

Montgomery Weed Control Inc. (The Program) is a cooperative weed control program between Montgomery County Office of Agriculture and the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Plant Protection and Weed Management Section.

The program function is to assist farmers, landowners, businesses and government agencies in the control of noxious and invasive weeds and enable them to comply with the Maryland Noxious Weed Law. The purpose of the program is to assist in the control and eradication of noxious weeds in Montgomery County.

The purpose is achieved by hiring a Weed Control Coordinator and Weed Control Technicians to survey for and identify noxious weeds, contact landowners and land managers with infestations to develop and institute control programs and provide assistance with noxious and invasive weed control on request from the public. Expertise is provided to farmers and land managers on the most efficient and effective control measures. The program strives to be proactive and institute control measures prior to noxious weeds becoming a problem.

The program is equipped and weed control personnel are trained to provide a spray service for control of noxious weeds on a fee basis. The program utilizes specialized spray equipment. Cost efficient control is achieved with minimal use of herbicides. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are always followed.

The agricultural community benefits through increased productivity of the land, which subsequently increases profitability and land values while decreasing herbicide usage and cost. Public aesthetics are also improved. Many program activities relate to non-farm lands, such as State and County highways, stream buffers, commercial/industrial properties and land being held for or undergoing development.

Montgomery Weed Control Inc. Pesticide Management Plan

PERSONNEL

All employees are “registered” as pesticide applicators on employment as required by law. Four of seven employees are Certified Pesticide Applicators with two more in the process of becoming Certified.

TRAINING

- All personnel are trained in compliance with the State Pesticide Applicator’s Law.
- Training includes the following but is not limited to: Safe pesticide use and application methods and techniques, efficient cost effective applications, record keeping, site assessment and plant identification.
- Field training with Supervisor
- All employees attend the Maryland Pesticide Conference annually
- All employees attend an in house certified pesticide safety training meeting at the start of the growing season.
- In addition during the growing season, monthly all-day safety meetings are held for timely updates and training.
- Additional special meetings are held as needed.
- Other meetings on topics related to weed control are attended when available.
- As a public agency, training is also done in professionalism, public relations and the management of unexpected situations and complaints. Any such occurrences are reported immediately to supervisors and/or appropriate agencies.

Training materials used are the Commercial Applicators Training Series used by the Pesticide Regulation Section, Md. Department of Agriculture.

Manuals include:

1. Core Manual
2. Agriculture Manual
3. Right of Way/Industrial Manual
4. Maryland Pesticide Law

INCENTIVES

- All employees are encouraged and are assisted in becoming “Certified Pesticide Applicators”. All employees who become licensed receive an hourly raise.
- Most applicators with Montgomery Weed Control Inc. return annually. An emphasis is put on keeping our qualified, experienced employees returning each year.

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TREATMENTS

Treatments are done for noxious weeds on Montgomery County Highway Services Division ROW using the most effective labeled herbicides, following labeled recommendations.

Treatments are done only where areas/spots of noxious weed infestations exist.

No “lay by” treatments are done.

No Aquatic Treatments are done.

- Extra care is taken when working near water, storm drains or other sensitive area.

All treatments are post emergent.

A. HERBICIDES

Two primary herbicides are used for the control of noxious weeds on the County ROW.

Clopyralid – Common brand names: Transline, Pyramid

Used for control of Canada, Musk, Plumeless and Bull Thistles

Glyphosate - Common brand names: Roundup Pro, Buccaneer Plus

Used for control of Johnsongrass and Shattercane

Other herbicides may be used in specific situations.

B. APPLICATIONS

Applications are made according to label.

Treatments are based on professional judgment.

Only State Noxious Weeds are treated using spot treatments, minimizing the use of herbicides.

Drift control additive is used with treatments as needed.

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C. RECORD KEEPING

Records are kept according to Maryland State Law.

Application records are forwarded to the Montgomery County Highway Services Division.

Yearly, total materials used on Montgomery County Highway Services Division ROW will be forwarded to Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection as required by County NPDES.
(See table 1)

D. REGULATION

Montgomery Weed Control Inc. is licensed with a Public Agency Permit (PAP) No. 9070 by Maryland Department of Agriculture Pesticide Regulation Section (MDA PRS). The program is inspected annually by MDA PRS and is also subject to random spot “in use” inspections.

Table 1:

Pesticide Usage by Montgomery Weed Control Inc. on Montgomery County Highway Services Division ROW

Purpose	Calendar 2020	Calendar 2019	Calendar 2018
Treat for State mandated Noxious Weeds	4.71 Gal. Clopyralid 1.65 Gal. Glyphosate	5.24 Gal. Clopyralid 2.17 Gal. Glyphosate	8.31 Gal. Clopyralid 2.03 Gal. Glyphosate
	Herbicide use is directly correlated to growing conditions for each season. Measurement gallons of concentrate material.		