



## **PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN**

**Prepared in accordance with the Pesticides  
Amendment (Notification) Regulation 2009**

### **Narrabri Shire Council**

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To be reviewed in 2015

# PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2009 (the Regulation).

The plan sets out how Narrabri Shire Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns or controls.

The aim of this plan is to provide general notice on the use and presence of pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by Narrabri Shire Council.

By providing information on Council's pesticide application activities members of the community can take action to avoid contact with pesticides, if they wish.

Council has used pesticides in public spaces in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community or the environment and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

The plan sets out how Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications made by Council to public places.

The plan describes:

- a) What public places are covered by the plan
- b) Who regularly uses these public places and an estimate of the level of use
- c) How and when Council will provide the community with information about its pesticide applications in public places (i.e. what notification arrangements will be used)
- d) How the community can access this plan and get more information about Council's notification arrangements
- e) How future reviews of the plan will be conducted
- f) Contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan with Council.

Council only uses pesticides in public places when necessary to eliminate noxious weeds, to protect public property from pest damage and to protect the users of public places from nuisance or danger.

The majority of pesticide use consists of applying herbicides for weed control and applying insecticides to manage certain insect pests. Frequency of programmed applications range from 6–8 times per year for sports fields, 2–5 times per year for parks and gardens and twice yearly for public thoroughfares. Bait insecticides are used for termite and ant control to protect structures and public safety wherever this is considered an effective solution. Other pesticides used include fungicides, rodenticides, bird baits and large vertebrate baits.

Further information on Council's pesticide useage can be obtained by calling Council on (02) 6799 6866 or by submitting an email request to [council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au).

## 2. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Narrabri Shire Council proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places that it owns or controls in the Narrabri Shire:

- a) public gardens
- b) parks
- c) playgrounds
- d) public toilets
- e) picnic areas
- f) sporting fields and ovals
- g) waste management facilities (including transfer stations)
- h) public land owned or controlled by Narrabri Shire, including:
  - i) road verges and reserves
  - ii) laneways and pathways
  - iii) footpaths
  - iv) road, rail, utility or other easements accessible to the public
  - v) aerodromes
  - vi) cemeteries
  - vii) drains
  - viii) camping grounds / caravan parks
  - ix) bushland
  - x) aquatic centre and pools
  - xi) trust lands maintained by Council
  - xii) commons
  - xiii) land adjacent to buildings owned or managed by Council

*Narrabri Shire Council's* estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is summarised in the following table.

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
<b>Public gardens, parks and cemeteries</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children and young families</li> <li>• elderly people</li> <li>• general recreational users</li> <li>• visitors</li> </ul>	High/Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides (usually garden beds)</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Picnic areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children and young families</li> <li>• elderly people</li> <li>• general recreational users</li> <li>• visitors</li> </ul>	High (particularly on weekends and public holidays)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>

<b>Public places</b>	<b>Regular user groups</b>	<b>Level of use of public place</b>	<b>Type of pesticide use</b>
<b>Playgrounds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children and young families</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides (usually garden beds)</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Sporting fields and ovals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sporting clubs and associations</li> <li>• schools</li> <li>• Recreational users (e.g joggers, dog walkers)</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides (usually garden beds)</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Road verges and reserves</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people who work in area</li> <li>• motorists</li> <li>• recreational horse riders</li> <li>• drovers</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Laneways, footpaths, and pathways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• visitors</li> <li>• people who work in the area</li> </ul>	Medium (High – footpaths)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Easements accessible to the public (e.g. road, rail, water, sewer, electricity)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tradespersons</li> <li>• Local residents</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate</li> </ul>
<b>Drains</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• visitors</li> <li>• maintenance workers</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate</li> </ul>
<b>Swimming Pools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local residents</li> <li>• Visitors</li> <li>• Swimming clubs</li> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• tradespersons</li> </ul>	High (during swimming season) Low (outside swimming season)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
<b>Commons / bushland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• drovers</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate</li> </ul>
<b>Other outdoor public places libraries, crossing theatre, tourist information centre, public toilets, camping / caravan parks, aerodromes, trust lands, waste management facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• visitors</li> </ul>	High / Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate (only trust lands)</li> </ul>

### 3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

This section of the plan describes how and when Narrabri Shire Council will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including special measures for sensitive places that are adjacent to public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

There are four types of notifications:

- i) Minimal usage
- ii) Non-sensitive areas
- iii) Sensitive areas
- iv) Emergency applications

These notification requirements are based on Narrabri Shire Council's, assessment of:

- a) The level of usage of public places where pesticides may be used;
- b) The extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (e.g. young children, sick, pregnant and elderly people) and are likely to use these areas regularly
- c) The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides (such as picnic areas where food is consumed; sporting or other recreational activities that result in contact with the ground)
- d) The type of pesticide (s) used.

## **Notification Methods**

Notice of pesticide use will be provided by one or a combination of the following:

- a) Published on Councils website [www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au](http://www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au)
- b) Email, telephone, fax or personal contact,
- c) Advertisements in print media and local radio
- d) Mail outs or letter drops
- e) Signs (either at the location or mounted on a vehicle at the time of application)

### **i) Minimal Usage Areas**

Notification will not be given where Council is not legally required to record the usage of pesticides or herbicides. This being where a pesticide or herbicide is:

- (a) Ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home gardening), and
- (b) Widely available to the general public at retail outlets (for example, at supermarkets), and
- (c) Being applied by hand or hand-held applicator, and less than 20 litres or 20 kilograms of "ready-to-use" product or 5 litres or 5 kilograms of concentrated product is being applied at the labelled dosage rate,
- (d) Where there isn't a requirement on the product label or a legal statute requiring notification.

Examples (not a comprehensive listing) include:

- applications of glyphosate to control grass growing between pavers, at the base of fence posts or signs, footpaths.
- applications of garden chemicals to control insects, and invertebrate pests found on roses, shrubs, bushes, and trees.

Notification will not be given for the use of pesticides and herbicides for the minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans and spot weed control using a wand or hand-held spray bottle.

## ii) Non-Sensitive Area Notifications

Public places	Type of pesticide use	Notification to be provided when required
<b>Public gardens, parks and cemeteries</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides (usually garden beds)</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity.</li> </ul> <p>AND/OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signs to be erected in prominent locations at the commencement of application. Signage to be displayed for a minimum of 24 hours after application is completed.</li> </ul>
<b>Picnic areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity.</li> </ul> <p>AND/OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signs to be erected in prominent locations at the commencement of application. Signage to be displayed for a minimum of 24 hours after application is completed.</li> </ul>
<b>Playgrounds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides (usually garden beds)</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign to be erected in a prominent location at the commencement of application. Signage to be displayed for a minimum of 24 hours after application is completed.</li> </ul>
<b>Sporting fields and ovals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides (usually garden beds)</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity.</li> </ul> <p>AND/OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign to be displayed at the location the field closed plate is normally displayed when a field is closed due to wet weather. The sign need to be displayed for 24 hours after application is completed.</li> </ul>
<b>Road verges and reserves</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity. No residual signage.</li> </ul>
<b>Laneways footpaths, and pathways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity. No residual signage.</li> </ul>
<b>Easements accessible to the public (e.g. road, rail, water, sewer, electricity)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity. No residual signage.</li> </ul>

Public places	Type of pesticide use	Notification to be provided when required
<b>Drains</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herbicides</li> <li>• Insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity. No residual signage.</li> </ul>
<b>Swimming Pools</b>	Herbicides Insecticides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>	Outside swimming season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity. No residual signage.</li> </ul> During swimming season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signs to be erected at the main public entry to the swimming facility at the time of application commencement. Sign must be displayed for a minimum of 24 hours after application.</li> </ul>
<b>Commons/ bushland</b>	Herbicides Insecticides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity. No residual signage.</li> </ul>
<b>Other outdoor public places libraries, crossing theatre, tourist information centre, public toilets, camping / caravan parks, aerodromes, trust lands, waste management facilities</b>	Herbicides Insecticides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Termicides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> <li>• Sodium mono fluoroacetate (only trust lands)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be affixed to vehicle undertaking application activity.</li> </ul> AND/OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage to be displayed at the main entry point to the building or facility at the time of application. Sign to be displayed for a minimum of 24 hours after application.</li> </ul>

### iii) Sensitive Areas notifications

*Pesticides Regulation 2009* defines a sensitive place to be any:

- a) School or pre-school
- b) Kindergarten
- c) Childcare centre
- d) Hospital
- e) Community health centre

- f) Nursing home
- g) Places declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority.

Special notification measures for programmed pesticide use in public places adjacent (close proximity <50m) to sensitive places will consist of advanced or concurrent notice provided either orally, or in written form (including electronic correspondence eg, e-mail or SMS): to an appropriate person or position holder at the facility.

#### **iv) Emergency Applications**

- In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), *notice* will be provided *as per the Non-Sensitive Area* Notifications requirements.
- Where broadscale spraying is required at short notice (eg, plague locust control) and public notification is not possible, special precautions will be taken to prevent the public encountering pesticides (eg, road or facility closures).

#### ***Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places***

Where Narrabri Shire Council uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, they shall provide notification as per this plan.

Where persons or organisations hold an existing lease on Narrabri Shire Council and that remains a public place: the lessee will provide notice.

#### ***Public places where no notice will be provided***

No public places are exempt from notification where the quantity of pesticides exceeds the amount defined as minimal usage.

### **4. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED ON NOTIFICATION SIGNS**

In accordance with clause 14 of the Pesticides Regulation, notice of pesticides uses will include the following information:

- a) The full product name of the pesticide to be used,
- b) The places where the pesticide is to be used,
- c) The purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated,
- d) The proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use,
- e) Contact telephone number of the Council officer/contractor who people can contact to discuss the notice,
- f) Any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA<sup>1</sup> permit.
- g) Contact details for Council.

Council will respond to all reasonable request for information made available to Council concerning pesticide usage. (E.g. Material Safety Data Sheets)

### **5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN**

Narrabri Shire Council will advise residents of this plan and its contents by:

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<sup>1</sup> The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), the national government body responsible for assessing and registering (or otherwise approving) all pesticide products in Australia and for their regulation up to and including the point of retail sale.

- a) Making a copy of the plan available for viewing, free of charge, at its main office at 46 – 48 Maitland Street Narrabri
- b) Placing a copy of the plan on its website; [www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au](http://www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au)
- c) Placing a notice in a newspaper which circulates on a regular basis within Narrabri Shire
- d) Placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette

## **6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN**

The notification plan will be reviewed when circumstances require a review of the plan.

## **7. CONTACT DETAILS**

Anyone wishing to contact Narrabri Shire Council to discuss the notification plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

*The General Manager  
PO Box 261  
Narrabri NSW 2390  
Council@narrabri.nsw.gov.au*

## **APPENDICES**

Nil.