

Statement of Intent

The Clinton County Weed Commissioner will function in accordance with the Iowa Noxious Weed Law Chapter 317, Code of Iowa, 2009, to organize, supervise and coordinate a noxious weed control plan for all properties of Clinton County.

It is the duty of the Clinton County Weed Commissioner to make reasonable inspections on land within the boundaries of Clinton county.

Noxious Weed Enforcement

Notification of Property owners failing to control weeds.

Property owners may be given notice personally, by certified mail, by county sheriff, or any other reputable delivery service with conformation of delivery or return delivery receipt, that the weeds deemed noxious must be controlled. If the notice is refused for delivery or remains undeliverable the weed commissioner is authorized to perform the weed destruction on said property. The notice shall include the specific actions required to control weeds found on the property and a specific time frame for completion. If no action is taken to remedy the situation the weed control will be preformed by the county weed commissioner or weed control agency and all costs associated will be billed to property owner pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 317.

When noxious weeds are found these are the steps that will be taken to remedy the situation. A letter to comply will be sent to the property owner stating the time table for the weed destruction and the steps to control the weeds. If there is failure to comply with the first letter, a second letter will be sent out stating Official Weed Destruction Notice and a time frame with required steps to control the weeds, plus the costs of serving the notice. If there again is failure to comply the Clinton County Weed Commissioner or an agency contracted with the weed commissioner will do the weed control. If the property owner doesn't adhere to the control recommendations set forth by the weed commissioner, the property owner will be sent a letter to abide to the recommendations of the weed commissioner, or the weed commissioner will enter the property to control the noxious weeds. Penalties and costs for failure to comply will be imposed pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 317.

Weed Destruction Fee Schedule

- Actual pay rate of all county employees involved including benefits
- Current rental rate reimbursement of equipment used
- Mileage reimbursement rate set forth by the Internal Revenue Service
- Costs of pesticides to control the noxious weeds
- Costs associated with private contractor
- Costs associated with notice delivery
- Fine associated with serving Notice to Destroy

Administration fee of no less than 25% of the total costs to go to inspection and paperwork for noxious weed inspections and complaints.

List of declared noxious by the state of Iowa

Iowa Noxious Weed Law 317.1 Code of Iowa, 2009

Primary Noxious Weeds

- Quack grass (*Agropyron repens*)
- Perennial sow thistle (*Sonchus arvensis*)
- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Bull thistle (*Cirsium lanceolatum*)

Secondary Noxious Weeds

- Butterprint (*Abullion theophrasti*)
- Cocklebur (*Xanthium commune*)
- Wild mustard (*Brassica arvensis*)
- Wild carrot (*Daucus carota*)

European morning glory or

Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)

Horse nettle (*Solanum carolinense*)

Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)

Pepper-grass (*Lepidium draba*)

Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)

Buckthorn (*Rhamnus*, not to include

Rhamnus frangula)

All other species of thistles belonging in

Genera of *Cirsium* and *Carduus*

Buckhorn (*Plantago lanceolata*)

Sheep sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*)

Sour dock (*Rumex crispus*)

Smooth dock (*Rumex altissimus*)

Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)

Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

Wild sunflower (wild strain of *Helianthus annuus* L.)

Puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*)

Teasel (*Dipsacus*)

Shattercane (*Sorghum bicolor*)

The Clinton County Weed Commissioner makes no distinction between primary and secondary noxious weeds, therefore one is not worse than the other. Common (local) names may differ from the actual names listed above the weed commissioner shall take all steps necessary for proper noxious weed identification.

List of weeds declared noxious by the Iowa Secretary of Agriculture

Those weeds are listed under 317.1 of Code of Iowa, 2009

Destruction dates for declared noxious weeds in Clinton County

Group 1 May 20 to June 5th for Leafy Spurge, Sour Bock, Red Sorrel and Musk thistle

Group 2 June 1 to June 20th for Canada Thistle, Russian Knapweed, Buckthorn Plantain, Wild Mustard

Group 3 July 1st to July 15th for Field Bindweed, Wild Carrot, Poison Hemlock, Multiflora Rose, Horse nettle, Perennial Sowthistle, Quackgrass, Velvet Leaf, Puncturevine, Cocklebur, Bull Thistle, Tall Thistle, Wild Sunflower, and Teasel

Weed Control Service Area

Any individual, corporation, municipality, governmental agency, or organization, leasing, or controlling a property may request the services of the Clinton County Weed Commissioner.

Property owners are encouraged to participate in the weed control process by locating, identifying, and controlling specific infestations on their individual properties.

Clinton County Roadside Management will conduct a roadside noxious weed management control program. The methods of control include, but are not limited to, spraying, mowing, burning and seeding native grasses where the methods and sites are appropriate. All persons employed by the Roadside Management Department are under the supervision of the Weed Commissioner.

To view the Iowa Noxious Weed Law, visit www.weeds.iastate.edu/reference/weedlaw.htm