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Plant Protection

2022 Management Plan

For Allen County

Michael Hough, County Weed Director

Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the coming year.

My goals and priorities is to find and eradicate noxious weeds in the county. I do this by having the various county crews and county residents and landowners tell me when they find noxious weeds on county right of ways and or on there properties.

Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the next five years.

I plan of having noxious weed classes to educated the public on how to identify noxious weeds.

Describe the areas which noxious weed species are known to occur within the county and specific locations of new infestations and areas particularly susceptible to new infestations.

Field bindweed	is found in the NW corner of the county. New infestations are in middle of county.
Musk thistle	is found in the NE corner of the county. New infestations are in SE of the county
Sericea lespedeza	is found in the SE of the county. New infestations are coming up in the NE .
Johnsongrass	is found thru out the county.
Bur ragweed	N/A
Canada thistle	is found in the NE of the county. Have not found it anywhere else.
Hoary cress	N/A
Leafy spurge	N/A
Quackgrass	N/A
Kudzu	N/A
Russian knapweed	N/A

List any non-noxious invasive weed species you plan to control and the types of integrated weed control methods you plan on using on them.

Teasel is becoming a problem along the county right of way. I plan on spraying it with the appropriate chemicals. Considering making it a county option noxious weed.

List your planned integrated weed management goals and procedures, including but not limited to biological control agent selection and distribution, pesticide selection and application and cultural and mechanical controls.

Biological Controls

N/A

Chemical Controls

I spray the noxious weeds with the appropriate chemicals approved by the state.

Cultural Controls

N/A

Mechanical Controls

Brush Hog/Mowing

Estimate the projected personnel, operations, and equipment costs of the proposed program.

Personnel costs	Estimate \$65,000 - \$70,000
Operations costs	Estimate \$125,000 - \$130,000
Equipment costs	Estimate \$60,000 - \$65,000

List the methods you plan to use to encourage compliance and the enforcement actions you will take if necessary.

I usually call or meet with the landowner to explain there noxious weed situation. I inform them that I have chemicals available to them at a discounted rate. If I am unable to reach the landowner by meeting them or by phone I will send the landowner a nice letter or a warning notice to take care of the noxious weed problem. This method works very well and I have no problems with the landowner.

List your plans for working with state and/or federal agencies to control the noxious weeds on state and/or federal lands.

The state does a very good job of taking care of the noxious weeds on state and /or federal lands. The state sprays the above listed areas and sometimes the state will hire private companies to spray the areas that they don't spray.

Describe your education and outreach plans for the coming year. Include training and professional development for yourself and your staff. (Attend District meetings? Annual Conference? Recertification?)

My education and outreach plans for the coming year is to attend district meetings,attend the annual conference and meet monthly with the southeast county weed directors. I attain my recertification by attending the above mentioned meetings.

List the facilities and equipment available for use in managing the noxious weeds in your county, including a list of the equipment available for rent to the public and the rent you charge.

I have a ford F350 county truck with a 300 gallon spray tank on it. I have two hand wanes one on each side of the truck and I have two nozzles on the front of the truck that sprays 10 and 20 feet. I also have a ATV John Deere gator with a 35 gallon spray tank on it to spray areas where I can't spray with the truck. I have a 25 gallon pull behind cart and a 5 gallon shurflo backpack battery operated sprayer available to the public for no charge.

Noxious Weed Department Employees

Name	Title	Years of service in the Nx Wd Dept.	# Jobs within the county
Michael Hough	Noxious Weed Director	12	2

I certify that this is the official 2022 Management Plan of Allen County

Michael Hough, County Weed Director March 1, 2022
Date

[Signature], County Commissioner March 1, 2022
Date

[Signature], County Commissioner March 1, 2022
Date

Bruce A. Syme, County Commissioner March 1, 2022
Date