



Roadside Spray Program and Notification Register



FACTSHEET

What is the purpose of Council's annual roadside spray program?

With over 700 kilometres of road network across the municipal area, managing roadside vegetation is an important part of Council's responsibility to keep our community safe.

Regular roadside spraying:

- helps reduce fire hazards
- improves visibility for drivers
- ensures roadside drains can flow freely during wet weather.

Maintaining roads and footpaths is a legislative requirement of Council and is outlined in Council's Nature Strip and Road Reserves Policy.

What is Council's Nature Strip and Road Reserves Policy?

In January 2025, Council adopted the Nature Strip and Road Reserves Policy to provide clear guidance for residents and property owners about maintaining urban nature strips and rural road reserves.

The policy aims to protect and improve:

- public safety
- local amenity
- local biodiversity

Which areas are part of Council's annual roadside spray program?

- **Urban Areas:** Herbicide spray only applies to Council infrastructure (i.e., footpath, kerbs and gutters).
- **Rural Areas:** Herbicide spray is applied to grass and weeds near the road shoulder.

Residents can opt out of roadside herbicide spraying only if their verge is well-maintained.

What does 'well-maintained' mean?

Grass and weeds must be kept under 200mm in height within 2 metres of the road shoulder (or up to the boundary fence if it is closer).

Why was the 'No Spray Register' replaced with a 'Spray Program Notification Register'?

Previously, rural residents could apply for the No Spray Register to prevent roadside spraying on their property frontage. However, Council still had to spray verges where vegetation wasn't properly maintained — even for properties on that register.

Under the new policy:

- The No Spray Register has been phased out and replaced by a Spray Program Notification Register.

Roadside Spray Program and Notification Register

FACTSHEET

- Residents must maintain their road frontage (grass under 200mm) to avoid spraying.
- Council will notify registered residents before the spray program starts.
- If a verge exceeds 200mm or poses a safety risk, spraying will still occur.

How does the Spray Program Notification Register work?

Residents who wish to be notified before spraying begins can join the Spray Program Notification Register. This allows them to:

- Receive email or letter reminders before the annual spray program starts.
- Take action to ensure their verge is compliant and avoid spraying.
- Stay informed about Council's roadside vegetation management schedule.

Why might my verge still be sprayed?

Even if your verge is maintained and your property is on the register, Council may still carry out spot spraying to remove declared or high-priority weeds, as required by law.

Herbicide use

- Council uses Cropmaster 450 (glyphosate) for roadside spraying.
- Herbicides are applied by trained staff under strict safety protocols and regulatory guidelines.
- Spot spraying or cut-and-paste methods may be used for declared or high-priority weeds.

Council recognises community concern about herbicide use and continues to:

- Reduce chemical use where possible
- Monitor and trial alternative weed control methods
- Use approved herbicides only until more practical, cost-effective non-chemical options become available.


More information

To view Council's Nature Strip and Road Reserves Policy or join the Spray Program Notification Register visit

<https://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au/management-of-vegetation-in-council-road-reserves/>

For questions in relation to the Spray Program Notification Register, contact **Huon Valley Council – Infrastructure and Assets Department**

 40 Main Street, Huonville

 (03) 6264 0300

 hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au

 huonvalley.tas.gov.au

Huon Valley Council
40 Main Street Huonville
(03) 6264 0300
hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au
huonvalley.tas.gov.au

