



CAMDEN COUNCIL

PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

(FINAL)

PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

From the 1st February 2007 changes to the Pesticides Regulation 1995 will require public authorities, such as local Councils and Government agencies, to notify the community, in accordance with a prescribed Notification Plan, when they use or allow the use of pesticides in public spaces that are owned or controlled by the public authority.

Camden Council's use of pesticides is mostly comprised of the commonly available chemical Glyphosate (or RoundUp) in 'spot spray applications' to control unwanted weed growth in garden beds, along footpaths and roadways. This type of application is not subject to notification provisions, however on occasions, Council is required to apply pesticides to control select weeds, insect pests, rodents and feral animals that necessitate a 'scheduled' chemical with specific application procedures and safety instructions. Examples of these pesticide applications include the control of bindii eye and clover in sports fields; noxious weeds like blackberry and privet in bushland; termites, rats and mice in and around Council buildings and facilities; and foxes and rabbits in bushland areas. Council also undertakes aquatic weed spraying on the Nepean River. This treatment is currently subject to a Licence issued by the Environment Protection Authority, although this Pesticide Use Notification Plan will also be relevant to that activity.

This Pesticide Use Notification Plan (PNP) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 1995 (the Regulation).

The objective of this plan is to better inform the community about pest management and pesticide applications in outdoor public spaces that are owned or controlled by Camden Council.

As a result of its implementation, the plan shall provide opportunities for the community to knowingly reduce their contact with pesticides and further ensure that Camden Council's use of pesticides is conducted in a safe, responsible manner which minimises harm to its community and the environment.

2. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Camden 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 Camden local government area (LGA).

- Parks, gardens, playgrounds and picnic areas
- Sporting fields and recreation facilities
- Waterways and natural areas
- Public land owned or controlled by Camden Council including:
 - road verges and drainage reserves
 - laneways and pathways
 - operational land and facilities

Camden Council's appreciation of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is presented in the following table.

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
Parks, gardens , playgrounds and picnic areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families • Senior groups • General recreation and leisure users 	Medium to High (occasional to frequent use by multiple user groups with short to medium length stays)	Spot herbicides, fungicides or insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control
Sporting fields and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families • Seniors groups • General recreation and leisure users • Sporting Groups • Visitors and spectators • Schools 	Medium to High (occasional to frequent use by multiple user groups with short to medium length stays)	Spot herbicides, fungicides or insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control
Waterways and Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families • Seniors groups • Leisure and environmental groups • Visitors and tourists 	Low to Medium (occasional use by multiple user groups with short to medium length stays)	Spot herbicides or insecticides Broad scale selective or non-selective herbicides Fungicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control Bait termiticides, Bait bird control Rodenticides Large vertebrate baiting
Road Verges and Drainage Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents across all recreation and leisure groups 	Low to Medium (occasional to frequent use by multiple user groups)	Spot herbicides or insecticides Broad scale selective and non selective herbicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control
Laneways and pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents across all recreation and leisure groups 	Medium to High (occasional to frequent use by multiple user groups)	Spot herbicides or insecticides Broad scale selective and non selective herbicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control
Operational land and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents and visitors 	Low to Medium (occasional to frequent use by multiple user groups)	Spot herbicides or insecticides Broad scale selective or non-selective herbicides Fungicides Spray termiticides Spray ant control Bait termiticides, Bait bird control Rodenticides Large vertebrate baiting

3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

Camden Council will provide notice of pesticide use in public places including special measures for sensitive places that are adjacent to public places and the arrangements for emergency pesticide applications where prior notice cannot be given.

These notification requirements are based on Camden Council's assessment of;

- The level and usage of public places where pesticides may be used
- The extent to which members of the community who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (young children, pregnant, ill or elderly people) and are likely or regularly use these areas
- The environmental and health risks of the pesticide used,

Notice of pesticide use shall be provided by a combination of, but not necessarily all of the methods listed below:

- Temporary signage at the point of application
- The posting of this Pesticide Notification Plan on Council's website
- Letter, phone, fax and e-mail contact to key community groups and residents
- Advertisements placed in the local newspapers when wider notification is required.

Circumstances When Notification Is Not Required

Camden Council uses small quantities of pesticides in 'spot spray applications' that are widely available in retail outlets and commonly used for domestic purposes including home gardening.

In accordance with the Pesticides Regulation 1995, Council will not provide notice for such pesticide applications other than by way of this description in this plan. This will apply to the activities of minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans together with spot weed control using a knapsack wand, wick or hand held spray bottle.

Public Notification Outdoor Recreation Areas

The notification arrangements described below shall apply to the following public place categories owned or controlled by Council within the Camden local government area (LGA);

- Parks, gardens, playgrounds and picnic areas
- Sporting fields and facilities
- Waterways and Natural areas
- Road verges and drainage reserves
- Laneways and pathways

- Operational land and facilities

In these prescribed public spaces temporary signage will be provided at or near the application area or main entrance in full view of the public, at least 24hrs prior to pesticide treatment and remain in place for a minimum of 24 hrs post treatment, for the following pesticide uses.

In the case of aquatic weed spraying on the Nepean River notification will be given no greater than fourteen days prior and no less than seven days prior to the treatment.

- broad scale selective herbicides
- broad scale non-selective herbicides
- broad scale insecticides and fungicides
- spray termiticides and ant control
- bait termiticides (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)
- bait bird control (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)
- bait rodenticide (where part of an ongoing program, first use of pesticide only)
- large vertebrate baiting (in addition to notice requirements of the label and any relevant permits

Where any of the above pesticide uses occur adjacent to sensitive places as prescribed by the Regulation,

- school or pre-school
- kindergarten
- childcare centre
- hospital
- community health centre
- nursing home
- place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority (now a part of the Department of Environment and Conservation).

The occupiers will be provided with a minimum 48hrs prior targeted notice by phone, mail or e-mail (whichever is the most practicable).

Notification of emergency pesticide applications

In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to combat pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), Council will provide notice by posting temporary signage at the treatment site at the time of application, together with targeted notice by phone, mail or e-mail (whichever is the most practicable) to the occupiers of adjacent sensitive places.

Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places

Where Camden Council uses contractors to apply pesticides, Council will ensure that notification is made in accordance with the notification requirements of this plan. This shall be achieved by either conducting the notification itself, or delegating the notification as part of the spraying services specified.

Where persons, committees or organisations hold an existing lease, licence or interest on Council land that remains a public place and if the use of pesticides is conducted in this area, Council will require such organisation to undertake notification in accordance with the requirements of this plan. In doing so, each person, committee or organisation shall be deemed to be complying with New South Wales State legislation, specifically the Pesticides Regulation 1995.

4. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED

In accordance with clause 11L (2) (g) of the Pesticides Regulation, notice of pesticide uses will include the following information as a minimum:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used, and
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated, and
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use, and
- the places where the pesticide is to be used, and
- contact telephone number and email address of the Council officer whom people can contact to discuss the notice, and
- any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA¹ permit.

Signs will be of a standard design that will be easily recognisable to the general public.

5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN

Camden Council *will* advise residents of this plan and its contents by:

- making a copy of the plan available for viewing, free of charge, at its Camden and Narellan Libraries.
- placing a copy of the plan on the its website
- placing a notice in *the Sydney Morning Herald* and/or *Camden Advertiser*
- placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette

6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN

The notification plan will be reviewed every 4 years or when Council's circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- a report on the progress of implementing the plan
- placing the current plan on public exhibition, with any proposed changes and/or calling for public submissions.

¹ 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.

- in the event of public submissions, making recommendations for alterations to the plan

7. CONTACT DETAILS

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

*Parks Coordinator
PO Box 183, Camden NSW 2570
Ph: 46455913
Fax: 46547829*

*Noxious Weeds Officer
37 John Street,
Camden NSW 2570
Ph 4654-7777
Fax 4654-7829
(Enquires regarding aquatic weed treatment)*

or access the website www.camden.nsw.gov.au