

Revised Streetscape Weed Management Strategy FAQs

Background information

For information on the Town's weed management approach, please refer to: [Weed Management » Town of Bassendean](#)

What is changing?

The type of weed treatments used on busier roads will change from July 2022.

As shown on the below map, the treatment within some areas of Tier 1 and Tier 2 roads will change to use of Roundup Biactive (a herbicide). This will be applied three times annually to weeds growing on hard surfaces; depending on weather conditions in May, August and November. This will be applied using a vehicle, with measures in place to minimise spray drift. Areas adjacent to sensitive sites (schools, childcare centres etc.) will continue to be treated with steam.

All local access roads (75% of the Town's road network) will continue to be treated with steam until June 2023.

Following the Council decision in March 2022, if weeds are shown to be causing damage to infrastructure in a steam treated area, spot treatment with herbicide may be undertaken.

Why is it changing?

Currently all weed control on hard surfaces in the streetscape (kerbs, footpaths, paved areas, concrete medians etc) is undertaken using steam weeding. Steam weeding has been undertaken on the Town's hard surfaces since 2017.

A 12-month monitoring assessment of the effectiveness of steam weeding identified limitations in the ability of steam to control weeds with underground storage structures. Despite monthly treatments from April- August in some areas (Guildford Road and Collier Road), mature rhizomes and some clumping grasses re-grew between treatments.

As a result, the type of treatments used on busier roads will change from July 2022. The Town will also approach Main Roads WA (responsible authority) to request that they take back management of the Guildford Road median areas.

What areas of the streetscape are treated?

Weed control is undertaken on hard surfaces e.g. footpaths, kerblines etc. and median and garden bed areas managed by the Town. Weeds are not controlled on residential verges (grassed areas/ garden beds etc).

Who will undertake the works?

The Town will undertake a formal procurement process to engage a suitably qualified and experienced contractor/s to undertake the steam weeding and herbicide streetscape weed control. Spot treatment of weeds may be undertaken by Town staff.

Criteria will be included to prioritise methodologies that minimise the use of herbicide. There will be a requirement for respondents to demonstrate practices that avoid spray drift. For example, use of shrouds.

How will risks of herbicide use be managed?

All works will be undertaken in compliance with the product label instructions and Safety Data Sheets, and involve use of an APVMA approved product.

In addition, compliance with the following internal policies and guidelines will be required:

- WHS 030 Pesticide Use and Management Policy and Operational Guidelines
- Pesticide Application Register
- Risk Assessment Template
- Pesticide Notification Plan.

The contracted works will be overseen by a nominated officer from the Town, who will undertake regular inspections and audits of work being undertaken. It is also proposed that photo-monitoring will be continued to further monitor effectiveness.

When will the changes start?

The new weed management approach will commence in July 2022 and will be reviewed prior to June 2023. Until 30 June 2022, steam weeding will continue on all roads as per the below schedule. Where weeds are causing damage to infrastructure, spot treatment with herbicides will commence from April 2022.

Treatment Tier*	J	F	M	A	M	J
Tier 1		■		■	■	■
Tier 2		■		■		■
Tier 3						■

'No spray' List

Residents/ratepayers can register for the verge adjacent to their property to be left untreated with herbicides. To register for the 'No spray' list please complete the online form available [here](#).

The "No Spray" list only applies to local government road reserves and activities of the Town of Bassendean and its contractors. Registration to the "No Spray" list requires residents/ratepayers to commit to maintaining their verge in a weed-free condition. The Town reserves the right to apply herbicides should the above condition not be met.

What alternatives are being trialled?

The Town is a member of the WALGA Local Government Herbicide Use and Integrated Weed Management Working Group, through which information is shared on new methods and technologies for weed management. As part of the group the Town has nominated to

participate in an upcoming trial on electric weeding.

The Town is committed to reducing the use of herbicides in weed control, where the alternative methodology provides effective and efficient control. The Town will continue to investigate alternatives for herbicide use in streetscapes as new technologies become commercially available.

Further Information

For further information on streetscape weed management, please contact Sustainability and Environment through Customer Service on 9377 8000.

How can you help?

Residents can help with the management of weeds in the Town of Bassendean by taking the following actions:

- Control weeds on your property to prevent weed seed spread into streetscapes, parks and natural areas.
- Plant natives in your garden. The Town runs an annual Plants to Residents program to assist residents in purchasing local native plants at a subsidised rate. The website Grow Me Instead ([Western Australia | Grow Me Instead](#)), Water Corporation's Waterwise plants selector ([Waterwise Plants Perth & WA | Water Saving & Drought Tolerant Plants](#) (watercorporation.com.au)) and the Town's verge treatment guidelines ([Verges » Town of Bassendean](#)) are great resources to help with plant selection.
- Mulch your garden to help in suppressing weeds. The Town provides free mulch to residents (subject to availability), available for collection from the Depot located at 69 Scaddan Street, Bassendean. Call (08) 9377 9000 to check availability.
- Join a local Friends or Environmental Group to help manage weeds in natural areas ([Listings for Community » Community Organisations » Town of Bassendean](#))