

## HARD SURFACES: ROADS, KERBS AND FOOTPATH WEED CONTROL

### WEED CONTROL IN THE TOWN OF BASSENDEAN

The Town aims to minimise herbicide use where practicable, while continuing to maintain the Town's parks and gardens, streetscapes, and natural areas to community expectations. The Town currently uses a range of weed control techniques including:

- brush cutting
- steam and hot water
- hand pulling
- chemical treatments (herbicides)
- solar radiation
- mulching.

# WEED CONTROL ON ROADS, KERBS FOOTPATHS AND OTHER HARD SURFACES

A combination of herbicide and steam or hot water application, along with brush cutting and manual removal is used in the Town's road network for weed control on all hardstand areas including kerbs, hardstand verges/medians/traffic islands and footpaths.

Steam or hot water treatment is used around sensitive sites (including schools, daycare and senior centres). These areas will be treated five times a year.

Herbicide treatment (using Roundup Biactive or similar glyphosate based herbicide), will be undertaken in the Town's streetscapes three times a year.

Treatment of Guildford Road kerbs and medians is undertaken by Main Roads.

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### **INDICATIVE WORKS SCHEDULE**

Treatment Area*	J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
High frequency steam treatment												
Distributor and local roads herbicide treatment												

<sup>\*</sup>See map below.

### **CONTINOUS IMPROVEMENT ACTION**

The Town's current contractor uses WeedSeeker® technology on their spray rigs. This technology detects weeds via a sensor, which links to the spray nozzle to precisely deliver herbicide onto the weed, reducing the overall amount of herbicide applied.

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.

Weed control/maintenance requirements will also be considered during the construction of roads and associated infrastructure. Reducing 'cracks' for weeds to grow in will reduce overall maintenance requirements. This could include the use of joint fillers, painted islands in place of physical medians, landscaped medians, and use of stencilcrete in place of brick paving.

Residents are encouraged to help reduce weeds in the streetscapes by transforming their verges into waterwise, native verges, following the Town's verge treatments guidelines and policy (Verges » Town of Bassendean). The Town provides support to residents to undertake these transformations through the annual Plants to Residents program and Verge Rebate program. Further information on these programs can be found here: Sustainability Programs » Town of Bassendean.

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# 'NO SPRAY'

Residents or ratepayers can register for the hardstand areas adjacent to their property to be left untreated with herbicides, by filling out a online form (<u>Online Form - No Spray List Registration Form » Town of Bassendean</u>). The 'no spray' list only applies to local government road reserves and activities of the Town of Bassendean and its contractors.

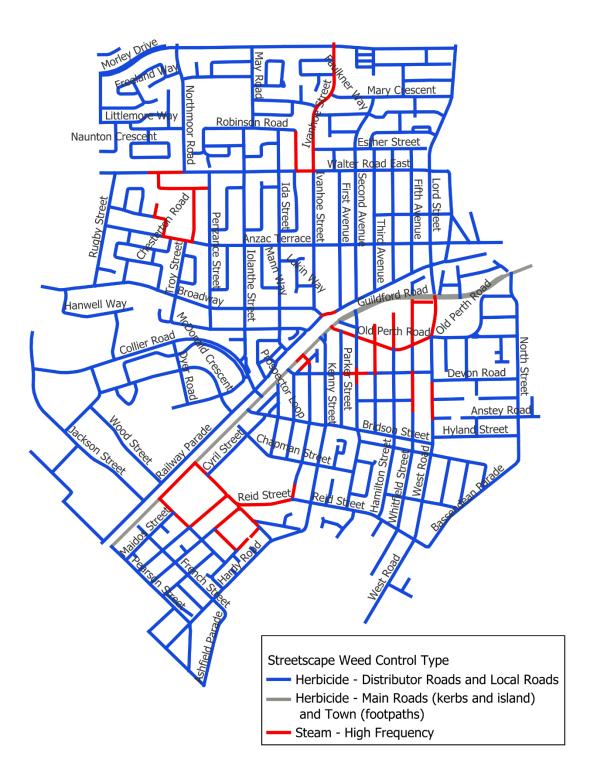
Registration to the 'no spray' list requires residents or ratepayers to commit to maintaining their verge hardstand areas in a weed-free condition. The Town reserves the right to apply herbicides should the above condition not be met.

LEAD OFFICER

**Conservation Officer** 

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