

PARKS AND GARDENS: ACTIVE SPACES, NON-ACTIVE SPACES AND AMENITIES

WEED CONTROL IN THE TOWN OF BASSENDEAN

The Town aims to minimise herbicide use, where practicable, whilst continuing to maintain the Town's parkland, commercial areas and natural areas to community expectations. The Town currently uses a range of weed control techniques which include:

- Physical/Mechanical :
 - brush cutting
 - steam and hot water
 - hand pulling
 - solar radiation
 - mulching (etc.)
- Chemical (Herbicides)

WEED CONTROL IN PARKS AND GARDENS

The drivers of climate change and community expectations for higher quality and environmentally friendly public open space and parks provides an opportunity to develop a program of re-imagining the Town's parks and spaces. The opportunity exist in longer term asset management plan and future park upgrades; as exemplified by the current Mary Crescent Reserve project.

The Town also has an obligation to provide high quality parks which are fit for purpose. The Town needs to provide safe playing surfaces and support the liveability of our urban areas. Weed management in these areas may require the use of chemical weed control techniques.

INDICATIVE WORKS SCHEDULE

Physical / Mechanical control - The Town undertakes brush cutting, steam and hot water applications, hand pulling, solarisation and mowing as non-chemical approaches to maintain the Town parks, gardens and other community green spaces. These works are undertaken on weekly or monthly intervals as per each reserves maintenance schedule.

Chemical Control - Generally the least toxic options is used by the Town and only when necessary. Town officers closely supervise chemical applications and all staff and contractors are required to comply with all relevant regulations, product material safety data sheets and legislation by the West Australia Department of Health.

Indicative Chemical Weed Control Schedule

Weed Group	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Grasses												
Geophytes												
Woody Weeds												
Broadleaf												
Broadleaf Lawn Weeds (Bindii)												

**PARKS AND
GARDENS WEED
CONTROL MATRIX**

The matrix below outlines the methods available to control different weed groups within the Towns Parks and Gardens.

Weed Control Matrix For Parks And Gardens Management

Group	Type	Grasses (caespitose)	Grasses (rhizomatous)	Geophytes	Broadleaf Weeds	Woody weeds
Physical/ Mechanical	steam					
	solarisation					
	hand weeding					seedlings only
	mechanical					
	mulching					
Chemical	'natural' herbicides					
	herbicides					

KEY:

	Recommended
	In some situations
	Not recommended

**CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT**

ACTION:

*BMP GREEN SPACE
UPGRADE*

Passive Recreation: Whilst there is a general understanding of the costs and approaches of weed control in parks, gardens and green spaces, in some cases there is a need to revitalize public spaces to meet contemporary community expectations. These activities provide an opportunity as part of that design to incorporate more efficient and integrated weed management approaches.

The current design and upgrade of Mary Crescent reserve will provide a high value community green space. The Town will incorporate efficient and integrated weed management approaches in this reserve which will provide a model to consider a longer-term program to provide high quality, climate resilient and greener parks.

Active Recreation: Parks used for organised sports required highly maintained turf to provide a safe and functional activity area. A high standard of weed control is required in these areas. Improvements in active space management could include experimenting with the treatment frequencies to determine the maximum time between treatments whilst still maintaining the turf to the required standard.

LEAD OFFICER

Parks and Gardens Coordinator

