



PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN 2015



For pesticide use in prescribed public spaces within the Campbelltown Local Government Area

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Definitions

Pesticide - any substance or mixture of substances used to destroy, suppress or alter the life cycle of any pest and includes bactericides, baits, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides and repellents.

Prescribed public place

- (a) any of the following to which the public is entitled to have access (whether or not on payment of a fee):
 - (i) a public garden, picnic area, playground, park, sporting field or oval
 - (ii) public land owned or controlled by a public authority (for example, a road verge, rail easement or an easement for electricity purposes or for the purposes of other utilities)
 - (iii) land reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* or any State forest or Crown land
- (b) the grounds of any government school (within the meaning of the *Education Act 1990*) or any establishment maintained by the Technical and Further Education Commission, but does not include the inside of any building or structure located at such a place.

Public space - land owned or controlled by public authorities (such as Council) that the public is entitled to access.

Sensitive place

- (a) a school, pre-school, kindergarten or childcare centre
- (b) a hospital, community health centre or nursing home
- (c) any place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority by order published in the Gazette.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Plan

This Notification Plan (The Plan) for the Use of Pesticide in Public Spaces within the Campbelltown Local Government Area (LGA) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009* (the Regulation).

The aim of the Plan is to meet the community's general right to know about pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by public authorities. The Plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid contact with pesticides. Council ensures that pesticides are applied to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community or the environment. The Plan sets out how Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications made by Council to public places.

The aim of the Plan is to ensure the community is supplied with information about pesticide application within public spaces. The preparation of this Plan formalises Council's existing public notification procedures with regard to its use of pesticides.

In complying with the requirements of the Regulation, this Plan describes the following:

- the categorisation of public spaces where Council uses pesticide or allows other people such as Contractors to use pesticide
- the sections of the community most likely to access each category of public space and estimated level of usage
- the procedures Council will adopt to notify the community about proposed pesticide use in public space
- how the community can become informed about the notification procedures contained in the Plan.

This Plan forms a component of Council's integrated Noxious Weed and Pest Animal Management Strategy and Pesticide Use Notification Policy.

1.2 Current notification of the use of pesticides within the Campbelltown LGA

Campbelltown City Council currently utilises pesticides to eliminate targeted weed species, to protect public property from pest damage, to protect the public from nuisance or dangerous plants and animals and for the improvement and maintenance of Parks and Reserves. Council primarily only utilises pesticides of a low hazard risk; herbicides, bait insecticides for termite and ant control to protect structures and public safety, rodenticides and rabbit baits. However this Plan allows for the future use of more wide ranging pesticides if this is considered appropriate and necessary.

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Council develops a schedule approximately two weeks in advance for the broad-scale application of pesticides in some of its public space (predominantly sporting facilities) based on the level of usage and the potential harm to public health. Council also conducts responsive and/or emergency use of pesticides, when required. An example of this is the control of problematic wasp's nests in public spaces. In addition, Council periodically applies pesticide within watercourses in accordance with the product label or under permits for off label use of pesticides issued by the Australian Pesticides Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

2 Categorisation of public spaces covered by this Plan

This Plan permits the use of pesticides in public space located on land within the boundaries of the Campbelltown LGA.

This Plan will also provide information on how notice will be provided to the community of pesticide use in the interiors of the following council buildings: council chambers, libraries, community halls/centres and childcare facilities.

The categories of public space within the Campbelltown LGA identified for the purposes of the Plan are presented in Table 1 along with an estimate of the level of community use, and regular user groups for each of these public place categories. A summary of the type of pesticide use in each category of public place is also provided.

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Table 1: Public space categories within the Campbelltown LGA

Public space	Regular user groups	Level of use	Type of pesticide use
Public parks, playgrounds and picnic areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general recreation users (eg joggers, dog-walkers) • schools • bushwalkers • children • families • social groups • local residents 	Very high (frequent use by multiple users, with short to medium length stays)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicide • spot insecticide • bait rodenticide • broadscale selective/non-selective herbicide. • fungicide (usually garden beds) • spray termiticides • spray ant control • bait termiticides • bait ant and wasp control • bait rabbit control
Sporting fields, ovals and related sporting facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sporting clubs and associations • school sports groups • general recreational users (eg joggers, dog-walkers) 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • broadscale selective/non-selective herbicides • broadscale insecticides • spray or bait termiticides on facilities • rodenticides near facilities • bait rabbit control • bait fox/bird control
Council owned public land without facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general recreation users (eg joggers, dog-walkers) • local residents • bushwalkers 	Low to high depending on proximity to residential development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • broad scale selective/non-selective herbicides • broad scale insecticides • spray termiticides, wasps and ant control • bait termiticides, ant control • bait rabbit control • bait fox/bird control
Public space	Regular user groups	Level of use	Type of pesticide use

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Crown Reserves and sections of the Georges River Regional Open Space where Council has care and control responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general recreation users (eg joggers, dog-walkers) • schools • bushwalkers • families • local residents 	Low to high depending on proximity to residential development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides • fungicide (usually garden beds) • spray termiticides • spray ant control • bait termiticides • bait ant & wasp control. • bait rabbit control
Road reserves, laneways and pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local residents or visitors walking or driving on roads 	Low to high depending on location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • broad scale selective/non selective herbicides • insecticides • bait rabbit control • bait fox/bird control
Public authority owned corridors (e.g. road, rail, water, sewer and electricity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local residents and people working within the corridor (eg authority staff and contractors) 	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicides • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides • broad scale insecticides • bait rabbit control • bait termiticides • bait termiticides
Drains (eg Bow Bowing Canal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local residents and people working within the corridor (eg council staff and contractors) 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot herbicide • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides
Golf courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • course employees • golfers • local residents (dog walking) 	Low/Med winter to high in summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot spraying • nuisance pest control • vertebrate pest control • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides • fungicide (usually garden beds) • spray termiticides • spray ant control • bait termiticides • bait ant & wasp control • bait rabbit control

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Public space	Regular user groups	Level of use	Type of pesticide use
Swimming pool buildings and grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general public • visitors to the area • schools • swimming clubs 	High in summer/low in winter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot spraying • nuisance pest control • vertebrate pest control • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides • fungicide (usually garden beds) • spray termiticides • spray ant control • bait termiticides • bait ant & wasp control
Cemeteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general public • visitors to the area 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spot spraying • bait rabbit control • wasp control • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides • fungicide (usually garden beds) • spray termiticides • spray ant control • bait termiticides
Council depot, Council Chambers, libraries, community halls/centres and childcare facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • council employees • visitors 	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wasp & ant control • vertebrate pest control • broad scale selective/non- selective herbicides • spray termiticides • spot herbicides • spot insecticides • bait rodenticides • fungicide (usually garden beds) • spray ant control • bait termiticides • bait ant & wasp control

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3 Pesticides use notification

This Section of the Plan describes how and when Council will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including special measures for sensitive places that are located adjacent to public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

The notification procedures outlined in this Section of the Plan will be based on Council's assessment of:

- the level of usage of public places where pesticides may be used
- the extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides
- the type of pesticide used and associated hazard to the community.

Depending on the outcomes of this assessment, pesticide use notification will be provided by a combination of signage, advertisements in local newspapers and Council's web site and direct notification to potentially affected groups. Council's website will be utilised primarily to notify broad scale and/or forward planned pesticide applications. Signs will be utilised to notify the users of specific public spaces, as well as the general public about the intended use of pesticides. Correspondence and site visits will be utilised to notify specific stakeholders related to a particular public space, for example individual sporting groups.

The pesticide use notification will occur wherever possible in accordance with the requirements and timeframes described in this Plan. However where there is an inconsistency with the requirements of the Plan and those specified on a product label, the requirements of the product label will prevail.

The following provides a description of the procedures related to the pesticide use notification on prescribed public land within the Campbelltown LGA.

3.1 Instances when notification is not required

All pesticides are classified in accordance with a schedule that has been developed by the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling (ACCS). Scheduling is a method of classification based on a chemical's potential to impact on the health of the community. In NSW the ACCS Schedule operates under the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*.

Under the Schedule, pesticides are classified as:

1. Unscheduled- not considered poisonous.

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2. Schedule 5 Poisons (S5) - low potential to cause harm.
3. Schedule 6 Poisons (S6) - moderate potential for causing harm.
4. Schedule 7 Poisons (S7) - high potential to cause harm.

In many cases, Council uses pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home gardening). Under the ACCS Schedule, such substances are likely to be classified as Schedule 5 and present minimal risk to the community. Council does not intend to provide notification for the use of such pesticides, other than in specific circumstances where the use will be adjacent to an identified sensitive place (Section 3.3).

For the purposes of this Plan, notification will not be required in the following situations:

- the application of any pesticide by Cut-stump, Stem Scrape, Stem Injection or Basal Bark techniques by Council officers or Council approved contractors
- the application of any pesticide by Cut-stump, Stem Scrape, Stem Injection or Basal Bark techniques by inducted members of Bushcare groups supervised by an appropriately qualified Council officer or representative approved by Council
- minor control by spot application of chemicals for nuisance pests such as wasps and ants
- where a pesticide is classified as either Unscheduled or Schedule 5
- in cases where emergency pesticide applications are required to deal with a dangerous pest infestation such as wasp nests, Council will not be required to provide notification. However, Council will endeavour to provide information on the pesticide application upon request at Council offices or to the person applying the pesticide.

3.2 Notification for pesticide use in public spaces

This Plan only requires notification when:

1. The criteria described in Section 3.1 (Instances when notification is not required) do not apply
2. Pesticides will be used in public spaces adjacent to sensitive places.

Specific procedures for the notification of pesticide use in places located adjacent to

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'sensitive places' are described in Section 3.3. For all other situations where the criteria described in Section 3.1 do not apply, the following notification procedures will apply for each of the categories of public space identified.

3.2.1 Outdoor Recreational Areas

The notification arrangements described apply to the following public space categories owned or controlled by Council within the Campbelltown Local Government Area:

- public parks, playgrounds and picnic areas
- sporting fields, ovals and related sporting facilities
- Crown Reserves and sections of the Georges River Regional Open Space where Council has care and control responsibilities
- Council owned public land without facilities.

For the application of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides in these public spaces signs providing information on the activity will be installed at highly visible locations within the subject public space on the day of the application. Signs will be installed at prominent locations near the application area and/or main entrance. In situations where the application area is adjacent to tracks within bush land, signs will also be installed at the track head on the day of application.

Additional notification procedures are also applied to the following individual categories of outdoor recreational areas.

Playgrounds and picnic areas - For the application of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides within this category of public space that are undertaken as part of Council's forward schedule of works, notification signs will be installed at least 7 days prior to the application date in addition to notification on Council's website. For these areas only, notification signs will also be installed at least 48 hours after pesticide application or the placement of ant control baits.

For non-emergency re-active application of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides in these spaces, signs will be installed at least 24 hours prior to the activity.

Sporting fields, ovals and related sporting facilities - Prior to works being undertaken within this category of public space, groups who have booked sporting fields and ovals will be sent an information letter detailing the proposed pesticide to be used, and timetable for its use at least 14 days prior to the application.

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For non-emergency reactive application of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides, a representative of any known sporting group potentially affected by pesticide use will be contacted by telephone directly by Council officers at least 24 hours prior to the activity.

3.2.2 Outdoor public thoroughfares and public authority owned corridors

The notification arrangements described below will apply to the use of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides within the following categories of public spaces:

- roads, road reserves, laneways, pathways and footpaths
- road, railway, sewer and electricity easements owned by public authorities accessible to the public
- drains.

In these public spaces, information regarding forward scheduled works for broad scale herbicide application will be posted on Council's website. At least 24 hours' notice will be provided on Council's website for non-emergency re-active application of herbicide in these public spaces. During the application of the pesticide, Council will ensure that notification signs are installed on the day of the application or the day prior.

The following provides a description of additional procedures specifically applying to individual categories of public thoroughfares and public authority owned corridors.

Roads, road reserves, laneways, pathways and footpaths - For the use of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides in these public spaces, information signs will be installed at appropriate locations either on the day of the application or the day prior.

In the event of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides being used within these public spaces that require notification in accordance with this Plan, any directly adjoining residents will be contacted through mail box drops or similar means considered appropriate by Council at least 24 hours prior to the date of the application.

Public authority owned corridors - Council periodically applies Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides in corridors owned by public authorities such as the Roads and Maritime Service (RMS) in accordance with contractual arrangements between the two parties. The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has advised that in these situations the Notification Plan prepared by the land owner such as the RMS prevails in the event of inconsistencies between the two Plans. Therefore, notification by the public authority will occur in accordance with

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the Notification Plan of the public authority, and/or contractual arrangements, depending on the details of the individual contracts.

Council owned drains - When applying pesticides within or adjacent to watercourses (including drainage lines) Council will adhere to the product label or specific permits for off label use of pesticides issued by the Australian Pesticides Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). In this instance, the notification procedures required by the permit take precedence over the notification procedures outlined in this Plan. APVMA permit requirements include the placement of advertisements in the local newspaper, on Council's website prior to pesticide application and at the site during the time of application.

3.2.3 Council Owned or managed facilities

As part of the management of its facilities, Council uses Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides to prevent adverse impacts on the environment, health and safety of visitors and employees, and improve the visual aesthetics of the facility. Following the adoption of this Plan, the operators of these facilities will be required to adhere to the notification procedures outlined in this document.

For these public spaces, information regarding forward scheduled works for broad scale pesticide application will be posted on Council's website. At least 24 hours' notice will be provided on Council's website for re-active application of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides in these public spaces. Information will also be produced for display in highly visible locations at the facility and will be distribution to members of the community who use the facilities.

The following provides a description of additional procedures specifically applying to individual categories of Council owned or managed facilities.

Golf courses - Information regarding forward scheduled works at any Council owned golf course, as well as general information on the following types of pesticides will be provided at the Pro-shop for continuous display and distributed to members of the public.

Information signs will be installed near the application area, or at the tee of the relevant fairway and on the noticeboard at the Pro Shop at least 48 hours prior and after the application date when Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides are used.

Council owned/Managed Swimming pools and associated buildings - Signs regarding the use of Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 pesticides within Council's forward schedule of works will be installed at prominent locations on the grounds of the swimming centres at least 7 days prior to the date of application. Information will also be provided to the subject

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premises for display and for distribution to visitors at the pool entrance at least 7 days prior to the date of application.

Notification of non-emergency re-active use of herbicides will be provided to the subject premises at least 24 hours prior to application.

Cemeteries - Information will be sent to the subject premises at least 7 days prior to the date of application for display at the entrance and distribution to visitors. Appropriate signs will also be installed at prominent locations at least 48 hours prior to the date of application if considered warranted by Council.

Council Depot, Council Chambers, Libraries, Community Halls/Centres and Child Care facilities - The use of pesticide at the main Council Depot, Sark Road Minto, is restricted to Unscheduled or S5 scheduled poisons and therefore notification for pesticide use at this facility is not required by this Plan.

However, Council also has other facilities throughout the LGA used for storage of plant and equipment. If notification for the use of pesticides at these sites is required, this will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Plan and signs will be installed at the entrance to the subject facility at least 48 hours prior to the date of application.

3.3 Notification procedures for the proposed usage of pesticide adjacent to sensitive places

This Plan is required to separately state the notification procedures that will provide special protection where pesticides are used in public places that are located adjacent to 'sensitive places'.

In addition to the notification procedures outlined in Section 3.2 of this Plan, the following additional procedures will apply if the application of any Scheduled substance, by any method, is proposed in a prescribed public space located adjacent to a sensitive place:

- notification letters will be sent to subject landowners responsible for the management of sensitive places that are located within 50 metres of the boundary of the proposed application area at least 14 days prior to the date of the application
- Council will provide concurrent notice shortly before use to the occupier by phone, door-knock or letterbox drop, depending upon what is practicable
- if a pesticide must be used to deal with an emergency in an outdoor public place that is adjacent to a sensitive place, Council will organise a door-knock in that sensitive place, preferably at least 30 minutes before, so people are aware that a pesticide is about to be used to deal with a dangerous pest infestation.

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4 Arrangements covering pesticide use by contractors and lessees

Where Council utilises Contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, Council will provide notification in accordance with the notification requirements of this Plan. Council will also ensure that the notification procedures as defined in the Plan are incorporated into its contract and procurement documentation to be provided to all prospective Contractors.

Within the Campbelltown LGA, there is public land that is leased to persons or organisations. In the event of the lessee applying pesticide on this land, Council requires notification in accordance with the requirements of this Plan. Information that will be provided when notifying the use of pesticides

In accordance with clause 20 (1)(h) of the *Pesticides Regulation 2009*, notice of Pesticides uses will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use
- the name and location of the public place(s) where the pesticide is to be used
- contact telephone number and email address of the Council officer who people can contact to discuss the notice
- any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or within the permit issued by the Australian Pesticides Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

5 How the community will be informed of this Plan

The draft Pesticide Use Notification Plan 2006 was placed on public display for 28 days from 25 October 2006 to 21 November 2006 on the Ground Floor of the Civic Centre (Queen Street, Campbelltown), the HJ Daley Library and all Local Libraries. Advertisements providing advice of the public exhibition of the Plan were placed in local newspapers. The draft Plan was also able to be viewed on Council's website.

The purpose of the public exhibition was to allow Council to consult with the community and other relevant stakeholders, such as public utilities, on

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the features of the Plan including the types of public places identified and the proposed methods of notification.

The Pesticide Use Notification Plan 2012 does not differ materially from the previous Notification Plan and as such a further public exhibition is not considered warranted. Council will advise residents of the contents of the Notification Plan by:

- making a copy of the Plan available for public viewing at all Council's libraries and at the Ground Floor of the Civic Centre (Queen Street Campbelltown)
- placing a copy of the Plan on Council's website at:
www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au

6 Future reviews of this Plan

This Notification Plan will be reviewed every two years to monitor its implementation, incorporate any changes to public land ownership/care and control arrangements etc. or legislation that may have occurred.

7 Contact details

Anyone wishing to contact Campbelltown City Council to discuss the Notification Plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

Manager Environmental Planning
PO Box 57
CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560

Phone: 4645 4601

Email: council@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au

Website: <http://www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/home>

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