



**Holroyd City**  
*Built Around People*

# **PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN**

**Revised April 2009**

# Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN	4
3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS	6
Parks and Reserves	6
Road verges and reserves, carparks, laneways and pathways, and easements accessible to the public.	7
Drains and waterways	7
Interiors of public buildings	7
Public courtyards	7
Council's Swim Centres	7
Special measures for sensitive places	8
Notification of emergency pesticide applications	8
Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places	8
4. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED	9
5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN	9
6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN	9
7. CONTACT DETAILS	10

# PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the new amendments to the Pesticides Regulation 1995 (the Regulation) implemented by the Department of Environment and Conservation in February 2006.

The purpose of the Pesticide Use Notification Plan is to address the communities right to know about pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by Council.

The Pesticide Use Notification Plan allows members of the community to make an informative decision to take action to avoid contact with pesticides, if they wish. Council ensures that all pesticides applied to public places is conducted a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community or the environment.

The Pesticide Use Notification Plan details how Holroyd City Council will provide notification to members of the community in relation to pesticide applications it makes or permits to be made within public places that it owns or controls.

The Pesticide Use Notification Plan identifies:

- the public places covered by the Pesticide Use Notification Plan
- user groups of relevant public places including a level of use estimate
- how Council will provide notification of to the community in relation to pesticide use
- how the community can access the Pesticide Use Notification Plan and obtain any further information
- how future reviews of the Pesticide Use Notification Plan will be conducted
- contact details for members of the community wishing to discuss this plan further

The Pesticide Use Notification Plan provides a commitment that Council will only use pesticides in public places when it is necessary to control noxious and environmental weeds, to protect public property from pest damage and to protect the users of public places from nuisance or danger.

The majority of Council's pesticide use consists of the application of herbicides to control noxious and environmental weeds and applying pesticides to manage certain insect pests and plant diseases. Other forms of pesticides are used on a smaller scale to control pests such as vermin.

Further information on Council's pesticide use can be obtained by contacting customer services on 9840 9840 or by visiting Council's website on [www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au).

## 2. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Holroyd City 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 Council's local government area:

- parks and reserves
- public land owned or controlled by the Holroyd City Council, including:
  - road verges and reserves
  - carparks
  - laneways and pathways
  - road, utility or other easements accessible to the public
  - drains and waterways
- interior of public buildings
- public courtyards
- swim centres

Holroyd City Council's estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is summarised in the following table.

Public Places	Regular User Groups	Level of use of Public Place	Type of Pesticide Use
<b>Parks and Reserves</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children and young families</li> <li>• elderly people</li> <li>• general recreational users such as joggers, dog walkers, picnickers.</li> </ul>	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides</li> <li>• spray insecticides as required in buildings</li> <li>• spray termiticides as required in buildings</li> </ul>
<b>Road verges and reserves</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people working within the area</li> <li>• visitors to the area</li> </ul>	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides as required in selected areas</li> </ul>
<b>Carparks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people working within the area</li> <li>• visitors to the area</li> </ul>	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides as required in selected areas</li> </ul>

<b>Public Places</b>	<b>Regular User Groups</b>	<b>Level of use of Public Place</b>	<b>Type of Pesticide Use</b>
<b>Laneways and pathways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people working within the area</li> <li>• visitors to the area</li> </ul>	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides as required in selected areas</li> </ul>
<b>Easements accessible to the public (e.g. road, rail, water, sewer, electricity)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people working within the area</li> <li>• visitors to the area</li> </ul>	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides as required in selected areas</li> </ul>
<b>Drains and waterways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people working within the area</li> <li>• visitors to the area</li> </ul>	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides as required in selected areas</li> <li>• bait rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Interiors of public buildings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• library users including young children, school groups and the elderly</li> <li>• young children and their carers (childcare facilities)</li> <li>• parents, groups/playgroups</li> <li>• community associations</li> <li>• general members of the public</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spray insecticides</li> <li>• spray termiticides as required</li> </ul>
<b>Public Courtyards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local residents</li> <li>• people working within the area</li> <li>• visitors to the area</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides</li> <li>• bait rodenticides</li> </ul>
<b>Council's Swim Centres</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sporting clubs and associations</li> <li>• school groups</li> <li>• general recreational users</li> </ul>	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spot herbicides</li> <li>• spray insecticides as required in buildings</li> <li>• spray termiticides as required in buildings</li> </ul>

### **3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS**

This section of the plan describes how and when Holroyd City Council will provide notice of pesticide use in public places. These notification requirements are based on Holroyd City Council's assessment of:

- The level and usage of public places where pesticides may be used
- The extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (young children, sick, pregnant and elderly people) and are likely to use these areas regularly
- The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides (such as picnic areas where food is consumed; sporting or other recreational activities that result in contact with the group)
- Type of pesticide used

Notice of pesticide use will be provided by using either individually or a combination of the following:

- Permanent signs
- Temporary signs (used during application of pesticides)
- Information on Council's website
- Letterbox drops
- Door knocking
- Letters to high usage groups such as schools, sporting associations, etc.
- Telephone contact in times of emergency.

Council uses small quantities of some pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes including home gardening. Council does not intend to provide notice for such pesticide applications other than by way of this description in this plan (or general information on Council's website). This will apply to minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans and spot weed control using a wand or hand held spray bottle.

Council will permit persons and organisations to nominate to have their details placed on a central register which would allow them to be notified of certain types of pesticide uses in particular places, as described in this section of the plan.

#### **Parks and Reserves**

Notification for parks and reserves as a minimum requirement will include the use of temporary signs indicating at the time of application the use of the following pesticides:

- Spot herbicides
- Spray insecticides (buildings where applicable)
- Spray termiticides (buildings where applicable)

In addition to the above those Parks and Reserves identified as having high usage will have permanent appropriately worded and strategically placed signs erected indicating pesticide use.

### **Road verges and reserves, carparks, laneways and easements accessible to the public.**

Notification for road verges and reserves as a minimum requirement will include the use of temporary signs indicating at the time of application the use of the following pesticides:

- Spot herbicides

### **Drains and waterways**

Notification for road verges and reserves as a minimum requirement will include the use of temporary signs indicating at the time of application the use of the following pesticides:

- Spot herbicides
- Bait rodenticides

In addition to the above those drains and waterways where the application of bait rodenticides are used will have permanent appropriately worded and strategically placed signs erected advising of their use.

### **Interiors of public buildings**

For pesticide use in Council chambers, Council owned libraries, community halls and centres and childcare facilities that are owned or controlled by Council, signs will be provided near the application area or main entrance at least 48 hours prior to application and remain in place for at least 48 hours afterwards for the following pesticide uses:

- Spray insecticides
- Spray termiticides

### **Public courtyards**

Notification for road verges and reserves as a minimum requirement will include the use of temporary signs indicating at the time of application the use of the following pesticides:

- Spot herbicides
- Bait rodenticides

In addition to the above those drains and waterways where the application of bait rodenticides are used will have permanent appropriately worded and strategically placed signs erected advising of their use.

### **Council's Swim Centres**

Notification for Council's Swim Centres as a minimum requirement will include the use of temporary signs indicating at the time of application the use of the following pesticides:

- Spot herbicides
- Spray insecticides (buildings where applicable)

- Spray termiticides (buildings where applicable)

In addition to the above permanent appropriately worded and strategically placed signs indicating pesticide use will be erected.

### **Special measures for sensitive places**

Clause 11J(1) of the *Pesticides Regulation* defines a sensitive place to be any:

- 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 Climate Change).

Special notification measures for programmed pesticide use in public places adjacent to sensitive places for each category of public place have already been noted.

For non-emergency reactive pesticide use in outdoor public places adjacent to sensitive places, Council will provide concurrent notice shortly before use to the occupier by phone, door knock or letterbox drop, depending on which is practicable at the time.

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 arrange 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.

### **Notification of emergency pesticide applications**

In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), Council will, where possible, provide notice by posting signs nearby at the time of the application. If this is not possible, Council will provide information by request to the person applying the pesticide.

### **Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places**

Where Holroyd City Council uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, Council will ensure that notification is made in accordance with the notification requirements of this plan.

Where persons or organisations hold an existing lease on Holroyd City Council land that remains a public place and if they use pesticides in this area, Council will still require notification in accordance with the requirements of this plan.

#### **4. WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED**

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

- 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 who 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 APVMA<sup>1</sup> permit.

Signs will be of a standardised design that will be easily recognisable to the public and workers.

#### **5. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN**

Holroyd City 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 main office at 16 Memorial Avenue Merrylands.
- placing a copy of the plan on the its website
- placing a notice in its corporate page of the Parramatta Advertiser
- placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette
- including a leaflet in the annual rates notice advising residents of the plan and where they can view a copy of it.

#### **6. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN**

The notification plan will be reviewed every three years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- a report on progress of implementing the plan
- placing the plan on public exhibition, with any proposed changes and calling for public submissions
- in the light of public submissions, making recommendations for alterations (if applicable) to the plan

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

## **7. CONTACT DETAILS**

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

### Buildings – Pesticide Use

Building Engineer  
Holroyd City Council  
PO Box 42  
Merrylands NSW 2160  
9840 9840

### All other areas – Pesticide Use

Assistant Manager Operations  
Holroyd City Council  
PO Box 42  
Merrylands NSW 2160  
9840 9840

or access the website [www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au).