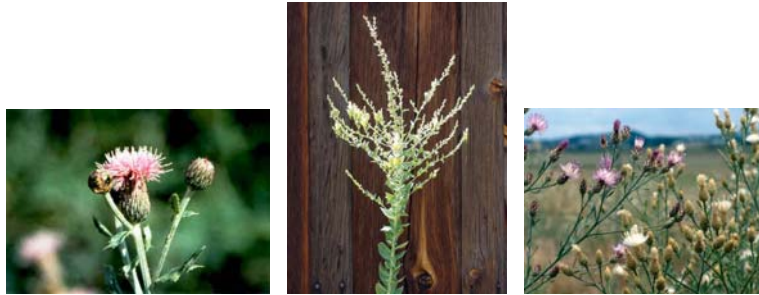


City of Durango Herbicide and Pesticide Use



Noxious Weeds

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act requires that the City of Durango and La Plata County implement weed management programs aimed at undesirable plants to reclaim infested acres and protect weed-free land. Noxious weeds are non-native plant species that have the ability to dominate plant communities to the extent that plant diversity and ecosystem integrity are threatened. Noxious weeds are aggressive, spread rapidly and resist control. Noxious weeds also threaten valuable wildlife habitat and natural resources and are a nuisance for recreational activities.

An integrated weed management program is an interdisciplinary approach to weed management which is safe, cost effective and gets results without damage to natural controls and the environment.

General Philosophy

The City of Durango strives to control weeds in City parks, open space and in the public right of way, as well as insects that are damaging to trees. Healthy turf grass is the best defense against weeds. Fertilizers are applied to promote healthy turf grass, in addition to aeration, topdressing and proper irrigation practices. Much of the fertilization is done in conjunction with weed abatement. Herbicides are used to control the infestation of broadleaf weeds and noxious weeds. Pesticides are used to control insects such as pine beetle and borer in conifer trees and the proliferation of European Elm Scale and Leaf Roller Aphids in deciduous trees.

Applications of herbicides and pesticides are done by State of Colorado licensed contractors. Applications are completed annually and the City issues a detailed schedule of the areas to be treated. In the City parks, the licensed contractor will flag the park on the day of the application and the flags remain in place until the next day. The chemicals are watered into the turf over night. The responsible use of turf fertilizers and herbicides are essential to the quality of City parks. Effective weed control must be performed on a regular basis. In the absence of herbicides, weeds will choke out the grass and spread to other areas of the City. Due to the high utilization of City parks as the turf grass gets stressed, weeds will invade. Drought conditions have intensified pine beetle and borer infestations. Systematic control and prevention is essential to promote healthy conifer trees. Deciduous and conifer trees provide shade and absorb carbon dioxide. A healthy urban forest promotes improved air quality.

Below is an overview of the chemicals utilized on City owned lands:

HERBICIDES	
Confront	Specialty herbicide for high-use turf grass
Curtail	Selective broadleaf weed control in open lands
Horsepower	Selective broadleaf weed control in turf grass
Milestone	Control of broadleaf weeds, including invasive and noxious weeds
Roundup	Spot herbicide for broadleaf weeds
Surge	Broadleaf herbicide for turf grass
Telar XP	Control of invasive and noxious broadleaf weeds
Trimec 992	Post emergent broadleaf weed control
Vessel	Broadleaf herbicide for turf grass
2,4-D Amine	Control of broadleaf weeds

PESTICIDES	
Carbaryl	Insecticide for conifer trees
Merit	Pre-emergent insecticides for deciduous trees
Permethrin	Termiticide/insecticide for conifer trees

FERTILIZERS	
Green-It Turf	Lawn and garden fertilizer
Howard Johnson's Turf Fertilizer	20-10-20 turf fertilizer
K Iron	Ferrous Sulfate Formulated Mixture
K Lawn Fertilizer	Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium and Sulphur

Contact Information

Contact the City of Durango Integrated Weed Management Program for additional information by email at rec@ci.durango.co.us or by telephone as listed below:

Parks, Open Space and Trails: Ron Moore 375-7381

Other City lands and Public Right of Ways: Tom Kramer 375-4909