



**PESTICIDE USE
NOTIFICATION PLAN
GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL
OCTOBER 2016**

PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2009 (the Regulation).

The aim of this 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 Georges River Council. The Plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid contact with pesticides, if they wish. Council ensures that pesticides are applied to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community and the environment.

The Plan sets out how Council will notify members of the community of pesticide applications made by Council to public places. The Plan describes:

- What public places are covered by the plan
- Who regularly uses these public places and an estimate of the level of use
- How and when Council will provide the community with information about its pesticide applications in public places (i.e. what notification arrangements will be used)
- How the community can access this plan and get more information about Council's notification arrangements
- How future reviews of the plan will be conducted
- Contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan with Council.

The majority of pesticide use consists of applying herbicides for weed control and applying some insecticides to manage certain insect pests. Non-programmed applications are completed for insect control as required. Non-programmed low impact pesticide, namely Roundup or similar, is used widely as required.

To reduce weed chemical resistance, another low impact S5 pesticide, namely Basta or similar, may be used widely as a substitute for Roundup or similar.

To reduce the overall use of pesticides for weed control a low toxicity, pre-emergent pesticide, namely Stonewall, is used widely as required.

PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Georges River 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 Georges River Council Local Government Area.

- Public parks and gardens
- Playgrounds
- Picnic areas
- Sporting fields
- Public land owned or controlled by the Georges River Council, including:
 - Road reserves
 - Laneways and pathways
 - Council easements accessible to the public
 - Stormwater channels and creeks
 - Any Council-owned property under lease that may require pesticide use

Georges River 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 owned or controlled by council	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
Public parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young families • Elderly people • General recreational users (e.g. joggers, dog-walkers, picnickers). 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children • Young families 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Picnic areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families • Social groups • Multiple users 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Sporting fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting clubs and associations • School sports groups • General recreational users (e.g. joggers, dog-walkers) 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides
Road reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents or visitors walking or driving on the road 	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Laneways and pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents • People who work in the area • Visitors to the area 	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Council easements accessible to the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents and people who work in the area 	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Stormwater channels and creeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents living adjacent to a drain; • Local residents or visitors who walk or drive past a drain. 	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)
Any Council owned property under lease that may require pesticide use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families • Schools • Sporting clubs and associations • Sports persons • Spectators • Casual users 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup / Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Only Stonewall or similar)

NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

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

- The level of 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 (e.g. 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 ground)
- Type of pesticide used.

Notice of pesticide use will be provided by a combination of:

- Signs
- Information on Council's website (which will describe programmed applications)
- Letters
- Door knocking
- Phone contact.

Council widely uses small quantities of some pesticides that are available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (namely Roundup or similar) and/or the other S5 pesticide (namely Basta or similar) or the non-scheduled pesticide (namely Stonewall or similar). Council does not intend to provide notice for such pesticide applications other than by way of description in this plan (or general information on Council's website).

Public places owned or controlled by Council	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use	Notification Arrangement
Public parks and gardens	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs placed 24 hours prior and left to 24 hours after application • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar
Playgrounds	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs placed 24 hours prior and left to 24 hours after application • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar
Picnic areas	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs placed 24 hours prior and left to 24 hours after application • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar
Sporting fields	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs placed 24 hours prior and left to 48 hours after application • Website Info
Road reserves	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar
Laneways and pathways	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar

Council easements accessible to the public	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar
Stormwater channels and creeks	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-selective herbicides (Only Roundup/Basta or similar) • Pre-emergent herbicide (Stonewall or similar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil for Roundup/Basta/Stonewall or similar
Any Council owned property under lease that may require pesticide use	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadscale selective herbicides • Broadscale insecticides • Non-selective herbicides • Fungicides • Spot applications of herbicides/insecticides/fungicides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs placed 24 hours prior and left to 24 hours after application. • Nil for Roundup or similar or spot applications

Special measures for sensitive places

Clause 18 of the 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 (EPA).

Special notification measures for programmed pesticide use in outdoor 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 next to sensitive places, 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 at that sensitive place, preferably at least 30 minutes before, to make them aware that a pesticide is about to be used to deal with a dangerous pest infestation.

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.

Non programmed spot spraying applications

Notice signs will not be required for small spot spray/wick applications that are less than 30m² per site, product label and Safety Data Sheet instructions are to be adhered to.

Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places

Where 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 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.

Prevailing weather conditions

Wind conditions should be checked prior to pesticide application. The applicator is to document the conditions along with other hazard assessment checklists. Pesticides will not be applied in weather conditions described in the manufacturers specifications as unsuitable for application. This may be windy and/or wet conditions.

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED

In accordance with Clause 20 (h) of the Regulation, notice of pesticide use 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 places 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 the APVMA¹ permit.

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

HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN

Georges River 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 Customer Service Centre at either:

Georges River Council Hurstville Service Centre
MacMahon and Dora Streets, Hurstville
Telephone: 9330 6400 24 hours, 7 days a week

Or

Georges River Council Kogarah Service Centre
2 Belgrave Street, Kogarah
Telephone: 9330 6400 24 hours, 7 days a week

- Placing a copy of the Plan on the its website: www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au
- Placing a notice in the local newspaper the St George Leader.

FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN

The Notification Plan will be reviewed every five 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.

CONTACT DETAILS

Enquiries regarding this Plan should be directed to:

Georges River Council Hurstville Service Centre
MacMahon and Dora Streets, Hurstville
Telephone: 9330 6400 24 hours, 7 days a week
Post: PO Box 205, Hurstville BC NSW 1481
Email: mail@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

¹ 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.



NORTH
1:35,000 (at A3)

GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

**Georges River Local Government Area :
Pesticide Use Notification Plan**

Version 1.0
Date: 01/11/2015
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- Legend**
- Parks
 - Stormwater channel

Disclaimer: This map has been produced with the most current information available to Georges River Council, including information supplied from external sources. Georges River Council is not responsible for errors or inaccuracies in the data provided. Information in this map is subject to copyright.

NOTICE OF INTENDED PESTICIDE APPLICATION

To be used when giving residents prior notice

Notice to: _____

Date or dates of herbicide/pesticide:* _____

(*A range of dates may be used to cover short-term postponements)

Full name of herbicide/pesticide product(s): _____

The pest(s) to be treated are: _____

Where the herbicide(s)/pesticide(s) will be applied: _____

Re-entry period restrictions (if any): _____

The herbicide/pesticide will be applied by: _____

Pest controller contact number(s): _____

Council contact details to discuss this notice: _____

Date of this notice: _____



NOTICE OF INTENDED PESTICIDE APPLICATION

To be used at the time the pesticide is applied

Notice to: _____

Date or dates of herbicide/pesticide:* _____
(*Insert date or dates)

Full name of herbicide/pesticide product(s): _____

The pest(s) to be treated are: _____

Where the herbicide(s)/pesticide(s) will be applied: _____

Re-entry period restrictions (if any): _____

The herbicide/pesticide will be applied by: _____

Pest controller contact number(s): _____

Date of this notice: _____

