

Policy

Title: SOIL CONSERVATION
Policy Number: AG-63-16
Effective Date: April 24, 2024
Resolution: 207-24
Department Responsible: Agricultural Services
Supersedes Policy No: NEW
Next Review Date: April 24, 2027

POLICY STATEMENT:

The purpose of this policy is to set forth principles governing soil conservation measures in the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124. The Municipal District acknowledges the critical importance of safeguarding soil quality and integrity for agricultural/ residential prosperity and environmental sustainability. Recognizing the significance of fostering proactive measures, the Municipal District seeks to promote the widespread adoption of Best Management Practices and soil conservation techniques to ensure the preservation and improvement of productivity of soils within the municipal boundaries.

DEFINITIONS:

“**Agricultural Service Board (ASB)**” means a group of two (2) Councillors and three (3) Members at large, whose role is to advise MDLSR Council on matters and concerns facing the agricultural community.

“**Agricultural Pests Act**” means the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act (R.S.A. 200, Chapter A-8) and the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (184/2001) including any amendments or successor legislation thereto.

“**Council Policy**” means the written commitment of Council establishing service delivery, programs, and governance matters. Policy is approved, amended, or rescinded by Council and reflect Council’s values, established service levels and strategic goals.

“**MDLSR**” means the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124.

“**Geographic Area**” means an area of land under the jurisdiction of MDLSR.

“**Manager of Agricultural Services**” means the individual appointed as the Agricultural Fieldman through motion by MDLSR Council and by virtue of position (*Agricultural Service Board Act*) who acts as a Pest Inspector.

“**Producer**” means a farm operator.

“**Pest**” means an animal, bird, insect, plant, or disease declared a pest under section two of the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

“Pest Inspector” means an inspector appointed by MDLSR Council or by the Minister to carry out the Agricultural Pests Act.

PRINCIPLE:

1. As per Section 14(a) of the Soil Conservation Act, the local authority (Municipal Council) shall appoint the Agricultural Service Board appointed as the Soil Conservation Appeal Committee at the beginning of each year, to review and render decisions upon appeals submitted.
2. The Manager of Agricultural Services is, by virtue of title under the Agricultural Service Board Act, automatically appointed as a Soil Conservation Officer under the Soil Conservation Act.
3. The Municipal District of Lesser slave River No. 124 shall provide appropriate identification to duly appointed Inspectors.
4. The Manager of Agricultural Services shall coordinate with other municipal departments to develop an effective communication method for identifying areas with soil disturbances that have led to exposed soil, necessitating re-vegetation measures.

This Policy Aligns with all other Municipal Bylaws, Policies & Procedures

_____” Original Signed” _____
Chief Administrative Officer
Barry Kolenosky

Date

_____” Original Signed “ _____
Reeve
Murray Kerik

Date

SPECIAL NOTES/CROSS REFERENCE: ADM-12-25 Policy & Procedure Development
AG-63-16.01 Soil Conservation Procedure
Soil Conservation Act, RSA 2000, Ch S- 15
Agricultural Service Board Act, RSA 2000, CH A-10

AMENDMENT DATE:

