

Local Weed Inspectors Duties & Enforcement Procedures

2015 Minnesota Statutes

18.80 INSPECTORS.

Subd. 2. Local weed inspectors.

The supervisors of each town board and the mayor of each city shall act as local weed inspectors within their respective municipalities.

18.81 DUTIES OF INSPECTORS

Subd. 2. Local weed inspectors.

Local weed inspectors shall:

(1) examine all lands, including highways, roads, alleys, and public ground in the territory over which their jurisdiction extends to ascertain if section [18.78](#) and related rules have been complied with;

(2) see that the control or eradication of noxious weeds is carried out in accordance with section [18.83](#) and related rules;

Enforcement Procedures

A person owning land, a person occupying land, or a person responsible for the maintenance of public land shall control or eradicate all noxious weeds on the land at a time and in a manner ordered by the county agricultural inspector or a local weed inspector. (M.S.A. § 18.78, Subd. 1). The following are the steps to follow once a complaint is received.

STEP #1 – Inspect the area in question and complete the document labeled *Noxious Weed Inspection Report*.

STEPS #2 – If the area is determined to be infested with noxious weeds, estimate the acreage of the infestations, take photos and complete the document labeled *Inspector's Notice #1 - Notice to Control*. Then send copies of the *Noxious Weed Inspection Report* and the *Inspectors Notice #1* to the landowner by certified mail giving the owner ten working days to comply with the notice.

STEP #3 – After the ten days, re-inspect the area. If it is determined that the landowner has not complied with the first notice, estimate the acreage of the infestations again, take more photos and complete the document labeled *Inspectors Notice #2 - Authorization to Control*. Send a copy to the landowner.

STEP #4 - Hire a third party to control or eradicate the noxious weeds and complete the document labeled *Inspector's Notice #3 - Authorization to Control*. Pay the third party for his services and send copies of all documents and photos to the County Ag Inspector.

STEP #5 - The county auditor shall certify the total expense of controlling or eradicating noxious weeds, which may include the costs of serving notices and, unless an appeal is made, such costs will be entered on the tax roll as a tax upon the land and must be collected as other real estate taxes are collected. (M.S.A. § 18.83, Subd. 7).