

Appendix F

Sweet Grass County Subdivision Noxious Weed Policy

Sweet Grass County Weed District recognizes that growth and development are inevitable. Subdivisions are also a concentrated breeding ground for noxious weed growth and spread. This potential is cause for strict prevention and management requirements. As per the Sweet Grass County Subdivision Regulations a noxious weed plan is required as a part of subdivision approval.

1. A Sweet Grass County Weed Management Plan approved by the Sweet Grass County Weed District will be filed. This plan will include:

- A. The name and address of the property owner or applicant.
- B. The legal description and location of the property.
- C. A vicinity or other map locating the property and ownership.
- D. Noxious weed data:
 1. Types of noxious weeds present on property.
 2. Approximate number of acres infested with noxious weeds.
 3. State the anticipated land use and other environmental concerns.
 4. Provide weed control activities planned for control of noxious weeds.
 5. Provide plans for future weed control for a period of 3 to 5 years.
 6. Signature(s) of property owner(s) must appear on application and must be notarized.

2. The Sweet Grass County Weed District or its representative will inspect the proposed subdivision with consideration given to the filed Weed Management Plan as a reference for noxious weeds infestation the subdivision acreage.

3. A fee will be paid by the developer to defray the expenses of the onsite inspection of the proposed subdivision and the review of the Subdivision Weed Management Plan. All fees will be paid to Sweet Grass County Weed District and are as follows:

- A. Subdivision Inspection Fees
 1. A non-refundable fee of \$100.00 plus \$25.00/hour after the first hour will be assessed for the inspection. Mileage will be charged for inspections over 20 miles at the State Rate.
- B. Management Plan Fee
 1. If the Sweet Grass County Weed District completes the Management Plan for the applicant a fee will be assessed. The fee will be in the amount of \$20.00/hr of work with a minimum of 5 hours or \$100.00.
- C. Subdivision Weed Management Plan Review and Approval Applications will not be accepted unless accompanied by applicable fees.

4. After reviewing the Weed Management Plan and making an onsite inspection of the subdivision site, the Sweet Grass County Weed District will approve or reject the application.

If the plan is approved, an approval letter will be sent to:

- A. The property owner or applicant
- B. The Sweet Grass County Planning Office

If the plan is rejected, the applicant has the following options:

Appendix F (continued)

- A. The Weed Management Plan may be revised by the applicant and resubmitted to the Weed District for review.
 - B. The applicant may request assistance from the Weed District or its representative in revising the Weed Management Plan.
 - C. The applicant may request an administrative hearing pursuant to sec. 7-22-2110, MCA.
5. The Sweet Grass County Weed District considers the Subdivision Weed Management Plan process a positive means of continuing awareness and education for landowners to be knowledgeable of and responsible for their noxious weed problems. It is the Sweet Grass County Weed District's desire to persist with effective management of the state and county declared noxious weeds, as stated in the Montana County Noxious Weed Control Act.