

VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

Lawrence, Michigan

2021 #05

DATE: August 17, 2021 CONTACT: Greg Brucks
Operations Director
RELEASE: Immediately Van Buren County Road Commission
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Notice of Brush and Invasive Species Spray Programs

The County Road Commission Wants You to Know . . .

The Daltons, North Webster, IN, a licensed commercial applicator, has been contracted by the Van Buren County Road Commission to perform custom chemical (herbicide) vegetation control services along the road right-of-way on various roadways throughout Van Buren County. The control of brush along the roadsides is critical to maintain safe roadside vision. Additional information regarding the herbicides being applied may be requested by contacting Lex Dalton at The Daltons, (574) 267-7511.

In addition, the Van Buren County Road Commission has contracted with the Van Buren County Conservation District to provide an herbicide treatment to control invasive species, such as phragmites and Japanese knotweed, along the road right-of-way as identified by Road Commission staff, SW x SW Corner Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA), property owners, and the motoring public. The control of these invasive species along roadsides is crucial as roads are high-risk sites for the introduction and spread of invasive species. Transporting seeds and plant parts by vehicles causes invasives to be introduced to other locations. In addition, road maintenance operations often inadvertently transport seeds, soil, and vegetation fragments up and down the road system. Additional information regarding the invasive species herbicide treatment may be requested by contacting Abigale Bristol, SWxSW Corner CISMA Strike Team Coordinator, at (269) 657-4030 ext. 5.

Locations to be sprayed include identified invasive species areas, as well as brush control at intersections and other selected areas within the county road right-of-ways, EXCLUDING platted or urban areas, orchards and grape vineyards and certified organic farms that have been registered on the Michigan Specialty Crop Site Registry (DriftWatch). These applications will begin on approximately September 18, 2021, and should be complete by October 15, 2021.

Property owners may request to be omitted from the program by completing an application form and agreeing to accept the responsibility for maintaining the roadside area by the cutting of all roadside weeds, brush and low hanging limbs a minimum distance of 15 feet off the traveled portion of the road and 15 feet above the road surface. If you wish to request an Application Form, please contact the Van Buren County Road Commission at 269-674-8011, Extension 236, or via email at VBCRC@vbcrc.org.

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