

BUFFALO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

**ALBERT STEVEN FOX
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CHAMBERLAIN SD 57325
(605) 734-6515
CALL FOR FAX**

January 2, 2025

Dear Buffalo County Taxpayers:

Re: Noxious Weeds

Weed control by each landowner is important so that neighbors and others do not have to expend additional sums because of the failures of a few to control the weeds on their property.

Please treat this as notice from the County concerning noxious weeds and treat this as a first notice which is being sent to every landowner.

- 1. In every case the landowner is responsible for weed control on their property. Even if you have a lease in which it says the lessee is responsible, the landowner is still liable and the County will look only to the landowner for control of those weeds.**
- 2. If you received a previous notice about weeds that was and is one or more of the notices required under the law, until you have completely handled that weed problem. It is not necessary for us to send those notices again. If you received those previous notices this should be treated as a subsequent or even final notice concerning weeds.**
- 3. If you receive notices in prior years, those notices are still in effect until or unless you fulfill the requirements of the law, which is if you notified us after you took care of the weeds we inspect it and cleared the weed notice from the record. In most cases those prior notices have not expired and continue through this time. If you received two notices in previous years, one of which would have been notice like this in January. Please understand that enforcement can and will be done.**

4. It is your duty as a landowner to keep noxious weeds from going to seed.
5. The County believes that at least an 80% reduction in the noxious weeds is necessary for you to begin to claim that you have such noxious weeds under control on your property.
6. If you do not control the weeds on your property and the County takes action to control them, our costs are likely to be very much higher than your own cost, being \$300 an hour and \$75 per acre.
7. Understand that if we note noxious weeds on your property with this letter we believe we have a right to enter and inspect and to do what we need to do if you have not taken appropriate steps to control the noxious weeds.
8. When you receive notices from us concerning noxious weeds, it is also your duty to take action within five to seven days and report that action to the County Weed Board within five to seven days.
9. Treat this as notice that we will inspect your land if we believe there is probable cause to believe such noxious weeds exist and they may spread or contribute to the injury or detriment of others.
10. If you fail to control the weeds on your property and the County Weed Board expends money and you do not pay the County back such money to control such weeds, then you are responsible to repay the County for that amount and if you do not an additional fee of \$50 or 10% of the costs shall be charged against your land and shall be filed with your taxes as a lien on the property.

Respectfully yours,



Albert Steven Fox,
Buffalo County State's Attorney for the
Buffalo County Weed Board