

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Invasive Species (DTSD97)

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on Invasive Species (DTSD97), WI STAT Ch. 84, a proposed guidance document.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

1. Department's website:

<https://trust.dot.state.wi.us/act369/?id=DTSD97&uri=https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/real-estate/roadsides/invasivespecies.aspx&division=DTSD&tags=84&tags=Trans280>

2. Mailing written comments to:

Division of Transportation System Development
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
PO Box 7965
Madison, WI 53707-7965

WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at wisconsindot.gov to allow for ongoing comment.

AGENCY CONTACT

dotdtsdguidancedocs@dot.wi.gov



State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Invasive species

Highway Maintenance

Roadsides

Landscape management

Invasive species

Mowing Wisconsin's
roadsides

Native plants
and prairies

Illegal vegetation cutting
and spraying

The Department acknowledges the noxious weed law and invasive species as defined by NR40 and within the given budgetary limitations works to manage invasive species.


NR 40 identifies, classifies, and controls invasive species. Regulation includes the movement of invasive plants or their seeds, either intentionally through planting or unintentionally through construction, mowing or other operations. To comply with NR 40, the need to control the movement of invasive plants and their seeds is essential.

Department invasive species initiatives

- Mowing policy focused on mowing before invasive species go to seed. See [Mowing Wisconsin's roadsides](#) for more explanation.
- Prohibited species control. The Department will work with counties to control prohibited invasive species. Please contact the Bureau of Highway Maintenance if you know of a prohibited species on State right of way.
- Permitting control efforts. The Department will issue a [work on the right of way permits](#) to allow individuals and groups on the right of way to manage invasive species. The proper herbicide applicators license and certification is required for herbicide use and all safety protocols must be followed.


- Biological control. The Department has an interagency contract with the Department of Natural Resources to release and manage bio-control agents on the WisDOT right of way for the control of specific invasive species.
- Management of emerald ash borer (EAB) infected ash trees in rest areas.
- The Department is represented on the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council (WISC) and maintains involvement and representation at various levels.


Resources

- Wisconsin Invasive Species Council (WISC)
- Wisconsin Department Natural Resources (WDNR) - Invasive Species Info
-  WDNR NR40 Terrestrial Plants color handout
- Wisconsin Department of Agricultural Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) - Emerald Ash Borer Source
- Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin
- Invasive Species Best Management Practices for Transportation and Utility Corridors

Authority

Administrative code

 Trans 280, Roadside Vegetation Management, establishes uniform procedures to maintain, enhance and protect roadside vegetation and ecology (maintenance of trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs).

 NR 40 Invasive Species Identification, Classification and Control. This is the Department of Natural Resources Administrative Code.

WI state statutes

84.07(3) – Maintenance of state trunk highways

66.0407 – Noxious weeds