Big Lakes County Policy

Equipment Sanitation

Policy Number:	ASB-12
Legal Authority:	Agricultural Pests Act
Approved by Council:	July 13, 2011
Effective Date:	July 13, 2011
Revised Date:	September 24, 2025

Policy Statement

Big Lakes County recognizes that declared pests under the Agricultural Pests Act and regulated weeds under the Weed Control Act are a concern to local agricultural operations. Proper sanitation of equipment prior to entering the County may reduce or prevent the introduction or spread of infestations.

Policy

1. All vehicles and equipment originating from outside Big Lakes County that may cause soil disturbance shall be sanitized prior to entry onto agricultural lands, using the following criteria:

    a. Soil and vegetative material shall be removed from equipment by:
        i. sweeping or scraping to remove all soil and plant debris;
        ii. pressure washing, preferably with hot water or steam; or
        iii. high pressure crevice sanitation, with particular attention paid to those parts of equipment which come into direct contact with soil.
    b. After soil and plant material removal; equipment shall be sprayed throughout with disinfectant (1-2% active ingredient bleach solution).

2. Vehicle and equipment traffic on and off agricultural lands shall be minimized whenever reasonably practicable, particularly during wet conditions.

3. Vehicles and equipment shall be staged in a vegetated area whenever reasonably practicable, with concern for sound soil conservation practices and soil erosion.

4. If "field sanitation" of vehicles/equipment is the only viable option, sanitation stations shall be located in vegetated (grassed) areas, whenever reasonably practicable, to prevent direct contact between sanitation residue and arable soil.

Reeve

Chief Administrative Officer

10/8/25

Date of Final Signature