

Clay County

Integrated Roadside Management Plan

February 21, 2017

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Clay County Roadside Manager

Preface

- A. IRVM Plan updated Spring of 2017
- B. Plan Contributors
Clay County Engineer, Clay County Conservation Board, and Clay County IRVM Manager, Clay County Conservation Board Supervisors.

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Executive IRVM Elements

1. Goals

Establish and maintain a self-sustaining and visually attractive plant community within county right-of-ways which promote public safety, weed control, improves habitat, drainage, erosion reduction, and reduces maintenance costs to the county. Promote the use of native plant species whenever possible, and maintain existing native plant communities already present.

Determine which IRVM Practices are most effective for a variety of right-of-way circumstances that arise, and evaluate practices to determine effectiveness.

Work with individuals, and community groups to promote native prairie plantings.

All spraying activities will be geared toward noxious weeds, weeds causing public safety concerns, or removal of trees and brush from the right-of-ways. Then maintain all spraying records according to state law and policies.

2. Program History

In the spring of 1998, the Clay County Conservation Board, with approval from the county supervisors, hired a Roadside Manager. Most of the duties were to be carried out on the right-of-ways within Clay County; however, other duties were also to be carried out for the conservation board by directors' decision. Time allocations over the

years have amounted to approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year are dedicated toward IRVM activities, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of the time allocated towards conservation board activities.

3. Decision Making Process

Most of the decision making process is the responsibility of the IRVM Manager. At times the Clay County Engineer will assign seeding projects with the right-of-ways to be carried out in a timely manner. All right-of-way weed complaints are to be dealt with as soon as possible as weather factors allow. Budget decisions are done jointly with the Director of the Clay County Conservation Board, with final approval coming from the Clay County Supervisors.

4. Executive Summary

The Clay County IRVM program has been committed to performing IRVM practices since it's' implementation in 1998. These practices have included: noxious weed control, planting of native prairie plant communities, promoting wildlife habitat, controlling trees and brush invasion within the county right-of-ways, and providing for public safety travel along the counties many roads.

5. County Map

See Appendices

Jurisdiction Recognition and Approval

1. Management

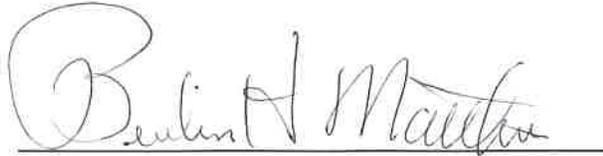
The IRVM Manager administers the roadside program with the assistance of the Conservation Board Director, and the Clay County Engineer. Such duties will include roadside spraying, seeding, brush and tree removal, and burning.

2. Board of Supervisors

In cooperation with the Clay County Conservation Board Director and Board Members, County Engineer, and the Board of Supervisors oversee planning and implementation of this roadside plan. This includes roadside budget and major equipment purchases. If this issue would ever arise, personnel evaluation discussed when pertinent.

Jurisdictional Recognition and Approval

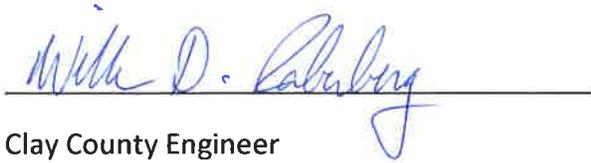
This new Integrated Roadside Management Plan has been reviewed by the following list of Department Heads within Clay County whom have a direct working relationship with the IRVM program.



Clay County Supervisor Chairman

12-5-17

Date



Clay County Engineer

12-8-17

Date



Director

Clay County Conservation Board

12/5/17

Date



Roadside Manager

Clay County Conservation Board

12/05/17

Date

Iowa Code

Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management

- I. **314.22 Integrated roadside vegetation management.**
- A. Objectives. It is declared to be in the general public welfare of Iowa and a highway purpose for the vegetation of Iowa's roadsides to be preserved, planted, and maintained to be safe, visually interesting, ecologically integrated, and useful for many purposes. The state department of transportation shall provide an integrated roadside management plan and program which shall be designed to accomplish all of the following:
1. Maintain a safe travel environment.
 2. Serve a variety of public purposes including erosion control, wildlife habitat, climate control, scenic qualities, weed control, utility easements, recreation uses, and sustenance of water quality.
 3. Be based on a systematic assessment of conditions existing in roadsides, preservation of valuable vegetation and habitats in the area, and the adoption of a comprehensive plan and strategies for cost-effective maintenance and vegetation planting.
 4. Emphasize the establishment of adaptable and long-lived vegetation, often native species, matched to the unique environment found in and adjacent to the roadside.
 5. Incorporate integrated management practices for the long-term control of damaging insect populations, weeds, and invader plant species.
 6. Build upon a public education program allowing input from adjacent landowners and the general public.
 7. Accelerate efforts toward increasing and expanding the effectiveness of plantings to reduce wind-induced and water-induced soil erosion and to increase deposition of snow in desired locations.
 8. Incorporate integrated roadside vegetation management with other state agency planning and program activities including: trails program, scenic highways, open space, and tourism development efforts. Agencies should annually report their progress in this area to the general assembly.
- B. Counties may adopt plans. A county may adopt an integrated roadside vegetation management plan consistent with the integrated roadside vegetation management plan adopted by the department under **subsection 1**.
- C. Integrated roadside vegetation management technical advisory committee.
1. The director of the department shall appoint members to an integrated roadside vegetation management technical advisory committee which is

created to provide advice on the development and implementation of a statewide integrated roadside vegetation management plan and program and related projects. The department shall report annually in January to the general assembly regarding its activities and those of the committee. Activities of the committee may include, but are not limited to, providing advice and assistance in the following areas:

- a. Research efforts.
 - b. Demonstration projects.
 - c. Education and orientation efforts for property owners, public officials, and the general public.
 - d. Activities of the integrated roadside management coordinator for integrated roadside vegetation management.
 - e. Reviewing applications for funding assistance.
 - f. Securing funding for research and demonstrations.
 - g. Determining needs for revising the state weed law and other applicable Code sections.
 - h. Liaison with the Iowa state association of counties, the Iowa league of cities, and other organizations for integrated roadside vegetation management purposed.
2. The director may appoint any number of persons to the committee but, at a minimum, the committee shall consist of all of the following:
- a. One member representing the utility industry.
 - b. One member from the Iowa academy of sciences.
 - c. One member representing county government.
 - d. One member representing city government.
 - e. Two members representing the private sector including community interest groups.
 - f. One member representing soil conservation interests
 - g. One member representing the department of natural resources.
 - h. One member representing the county conservation boards.
3. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for allowable expenses from the living roadway trust fund created under **section 314.21**. No more than a simple majority of the members of the committee shall be of the same gender as provided in **section 69.16A**. The director of the department shall appoint the chair of the committee and shall establish a minimum schedule of meetings for the committee.
- D. Integrated roadside vegetation management coordinator. The integrated roadside vegetation management coordinator shall administer the department's integrated roadside vegetation management plan and program. The department may create the position of integrated roadside vegetation management coordinator within the department or may contract for services of the coordinator. The duties of the coordinator include, but are not limited to, the following;

1. Conducting education and awareness programs.
 2. Providing technical advice to the department and the department of natural resources, counties, and cities.
 3. Conducting demonstration projects.
 4. Coordinating inventory and implementation activities.
 5. Providing assistance to local community-based groups for undertaking community entryway projects.
 6. Being a clearinghouse for information from Iowa projects as well as from other states.
 7. Periodically distributing information related to integrated roadside vegetation management.
 8. General coordination of research efforts.
 9. Other duties assigned by the director of transportation.
- E. Education programs. The department shall develop educational programs and provide educational materials for the general public, landowners, government employees, and board members as part of its program for integrated roadside vegetation management. The educational program shall provide all of the following:
1. The development of public service announcements and television programs about the importance of roadside vegetation in Iowa.
 2. The expansion of existing training sessions and educational curriculum materials for county weed commissioners, government contract sprayers, maintenance staff, and others to include coverage of integrated roadside management topics such as basic plant species identification, vegetation preservation, vegetation inventory techniques, vegetation management and planning procedures, planting techniques, maintenance, communication, and public relations. County and municipal engineers, public works staff, planning and zoning representatives, parks and habitat managers, and others should be encouraged to participate. The conducting of statewide and regional conferences and seminars about integrated roadside vegetation management, community entryways, scenic values of land adjoining roadsides, and other topics relating to roadside vegetation.
 3. The preparation, display, and distribution of a variety of public relations material, in order to better inform and educate the traveling public on roadside vegetation management activities. The public relations material shall inform motorists of a variety of roadside vegetation issues including all of the following:
 - a. Benefits of various types of roadside vegetation.
 - b. Long-term results expected from planting and maintenance practices.
 - c. Purposes for short-term disturbances in the roadside landscapes.
 - d. Interesting aspects of the Iowa landscape and individual landscape regions.
 - e. Other aspects relating to wildlife and soil erosion.

4. Preparation and distribution of educational material designed to inform adjoining property owners, farm operators, and others of the importance of roadside vegetation and their responsibilities of proper stewardship of that vegetation resource.
- F. Research and demonstration projects. The department, as part of its plan to provide integrated roadside vegetation management, shall conduct research and feasibility studies including demonstration projects of different kinds at a variety of locations around the state. The research and feasibility studies may be conducted in, but are not limited to, any of the following areas:
1. Cost effectiveness or comparison of planting, establishing and maintaining alternative or warm-season, native grass and forb roadside vegetation and traditional cool-season nonnative vegetation.
 2. Identification of the relationship that roadside vegetation has to maintaining water quality, through drainage well, sediment and pollutant collection and filtration, and other means.
 3. Impacts of burning as an alternative vegetation management tool on all categories of roads.
 4. Techniques for more quickly establishing erosion control and permanent vegetative cover on recently disturbed ground as well as interplanting native species into existing vegetative cover.
 5. Effectiveness of techniques for reduced or selected use of herbicides to control weeds.
 6. Identification of a uniform inventory technique which could be used by many counties in establishing integrated roadside management programs.
 7. Equipment innovations for seeding and harvesting grasses in difficult terrain settings, roadway ditches, and fore-slopes and back-slopes.
 8. Identification of the perceptions of motorists and landowners to various types of roadside vegetation and configuration of plantings.
 9. Market or economic feasibility studies for native seed, forb, and woody plant production and propagation.
 10. Impacts of vegetation modifications on increasing or decreasing wildlife populations in rural and urban areas.
 11. Effects of vegetation on the number and location of wildlife road-kills in rural and urban areas.
 12. Costs to the public for improper off-site resource management adjacent to roadsides.
 13. Advantages, disadvantages, and techniques of establishing pedestrian access adjacent to highways and their impacts on vegetation management
 14. Identification of alternative techniques for snow catchment on farmland adjacent to roadsides.
- G. Gateways program. The department shall develop a gateways program to provide meaningful visual impacts including major new plantings at the important highway entry points to the state and its communities. Substantial and distinctive plantings shall also be designed and installed at these points.

Creative and artistic design solutions shall be sought for these improvements. Communications about these projects shall be provided to local groups in order to build community involvement, support, and understanding of the importance. Consideration shall be given to a requirement that gateway projects produce a local match or contribution toward the overall project cost.

H. Vegetation inventories and strategies.

1. The department shall coordinate and compile integrated roadside vegetation inventories, classification systems, plans, and implementation strategies for roadsides. Areas of increased program and project emphasis may include, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - a. Additional development and funding of state gateways projects.
 - b. Accelerate replacement of dead and unhealthy plants with native and hardy trees and shrubs.
 - c. Special interest plantings at selected highly visible locations along and primary and interstate highways.
 - d. Pilot and demonstrations projects.
 - e. Additional snow and erosion control plantings.
 - f. Welcome center and rest area plantings with native and aesthetically interesting species to create mini-arboretums around the state.

(1) The department shall coordinate and compile a reconnaissance of lands to develop and inventory of sites having the potential of being harvested for native grass, forbs, and woody plant material seed and growing stock. Highway right-of-ways, parks, and recreation areas, converted railroad right-of-ways, state board of regents' property, land owned by counties, and other types of public property shall be surveyed and documented for seed source potential. Sites volunteered by private organizations may also be included in the inventory. Inventory information shall be made available to state agencies' staffs, county engineers, county conservation board directors, and others,

89 Acts, ch 246, ss6; 95 Acts, ch 3, ss2; 2010 Acts, ch1061, ss107

Referred to in ss314.13, 314.21, 317.11

Clay County Local Laws

And

Regulations

1. Iowa Code Chapter 317- Law administered by the Clay County Weed Commissioner concerning noxious weeds present within the boundaries of Clay County.
2. Permits- No Spray Agreements will be filed with the IRVM Manager for right-of-ways. If an individual requests for no spraying in an area of right-of-way, it then falls upon the requesting person to monitor and manage any noxious weed, or woody vegetation within the right-of-way. See Appendix for current permit.

IRVM Organizational Structure

- I. Organizational Structure
 - A. The Clay County Roadside Program is integrated into the workings of the Clay County Conservation Board. The roadside program consists 75% of daily activities focused on roadside activities. The remaining 25% of the time are allocated to working with the Clay County Conservation Board.
 - B. All spray operators are to be certified in Category 6 of the Commercial Pesticide Applicators law. All drivers must be 18 yrs of age and maintain a valid drivers license. All employees are to follow all the safety rules and guidelines provided to them.
 - C. Partners
 - Clay County Conservation Board
 - Clay County Engineer
 - Pheasants Forever
 - Ducks Unlimited
 - D.
 1. Roadside Activities

- a. The primary focus for the Clay County Roadside Program is the control of noxious or invasive plant species within the right-of-ways. Also the control of woody vegetation.
 - b. Other duties can include seeding projects, general maintenance of equipment, native plant seed harvesting, record keeping and documentation reports, and Weed Commissioner responsibilities.
 - 2. Conservation Board Activities
 - a. These are too numerous and can vary greatly from year-to-year, but can include maintenance of their equipment, managing wildlife areas, and controlled burns to name a few.
- II. General Information on Clay County
 - A. Currently there are 213 miles of paved roads within the borders of Clay County.
 - 1. With 213 miles of paved roads, this equates out to 2, 324 acres of roadside right-of-ways along these roads.
 - B. There are 710 miles of gravel roads within Clay County borders.
 - 1. Along these 710 miles, there is 4303 acres of roadside right-of-way.
 - C. Total right-of-way acres maintained by the Clay County Roadside Program are 6,627 acres for public safety, wildlife habitat enhancement, scenic qualities, weed and tree maintenance, and water quality.
- III. Mission/Vision of Roadside Program
 - A. The mission of the IRVM Program is the focus of noxious and invasive plants, and the removal of brushy vegetation within the right-of-ways in Clay County. As estimation, 95% of labor during the spraying season is targeted towards the duties mentioned.
 - B. The vision of the Clay County IRVM program is that noxious, invasive, and woody vegetation be at levels to provide safe, functional, and aesthetically pleasing road right-of-ways.

Clay County

IRVM Inventory

I. **Natural resources**

- A. The Clay County IRVM Program will be diligent in preserving the natural resources within the boundaries of Clay County.
 - 1. Preservation of native prairie communities existing within right-of-ways in Clay County.
 - a. Little or no chemical use in native plant communities with a diverse species composition.
 - b. Use fire as a management tool to invigorate the native plant community to promote a community of native plants that are self-sustaining, visually interesting, beneficial to wildlife and insects, providing water quality benefits, and low maintenance.
 - 2. Establishing native prairie communities.
 - a. To establish a diverse native plant community that is ecologically suitable for the soil types within the proposed area.
 - b. To be aware of any threatened, or endangered species within clay county and plant only species existing in the area into the right-of-way.
 - c. Plant species that are of ecotype origin to this part of the state. Best scenario would be Clay County ecotype seeds for use within the right-of-ways.
 - 3. Flora and Fauna
 - a. With the establishment of diverse native prairie plant communities, these serve as areas for insects, birds, and animals to benefit. The native plants serve as food sources for the many pollinator/insects that would utilize such planting. Hopefully, this right-of-way prairie can serve as a buffer to give refuge to a percentage of insects away from agricultural insecticide applications.
 - b. With thriving insect populations present within these native prairies, birds, reptilians, and small mammals flourish. Insect populations provide subsistence for survival, and offspring rearing. Larger mammals will then also utilize this prairie planting as habitat and a food source.

II. Equipment

A. The Clay County IRVM Program has acquired many different types of equipment to be able to perform various tasks during its yearly operations. Most of this equipment was purchased with either Clay County or Living Roadway Trust Funds. The following is a current equipment list that the Clay County Irvm staff use on a yearly basis. A lot of this equipment has been purchased with funds from the county instead of LRTF funds. See Appendices for a list of equipment obtained with LRTF Funding.

1. Fire Equipment

300 gallon water tank (County) (17 yrs old and functioning)

3 Indian backpack sprayers (1 LRTF and 2 County) (9 yrs old and good condition)

8 fire flappers (4 LRTF and 4 County) (9 yrs old and good condition)

1 drip torch (LRTF) (9 yrs old and good condition)

1 Honda 5hp transfer pump (County) (15 yrs old and fair condition)

5 Motorola CP 200 radios (LRTF) (13 yrs old and good condition)

1 Motorola XTS 2500 radio (County) (4 yrs old and excellent condition.

Polaris Ranger 700 (LRTF and County) (11 yrs old and very good condition)

RKO Fire Fighting Skid Unit for Polaris Ranger (LRTF) (10 yrs old and very good condition).

2. Spray Equipment

2016 Chevy 1 ton truck with Raven Spray System (County) (Excellent condition).

2 hand sprayers (County) (Replace as needed)

Safety equipment (County) (Replace as needed)

1200 gallon water holding tank (County) (11 yrs old and good condition)

1 Briggs and Stratton 5hp transfer pump (County) (3 yrs old and excellent condition)

3. Seeding Equipment

Bowie 600 Hydro Seeder (LRTF) (14 yrs old and good condition)

4' Truax Drill (LRTF) (16 yrs old and good condition)

Dew Drop Drill 4' (County) (15 yrs old and good condition).

Flail Vac (Pheasants Forever) (17 yrs old and good condition).

Bag Sewing machine (LRTF) (13 yrs old and good condition)

6' by 20' Seed storage area (LRTF) about to dismantle. We have out-grown.
(17 yrs old)

4' by 20' seed drying area (County) (17 yrs old and in good condition)

4. Brush Removal Equipment

(2) 290 18" Stihl Chainsaws (County) Good condition

180 14" Stihl Chainsaw (County) Good condition

2 FS 85 Stihl brush cutters (County) Good condition

4 hand brush loppers (County) Good condition

2 power driven chain sharpeners (County) Good condition

Safety equipment chaps and helmets (County) Good condition

5. General Equipment

1999 32' goose neck trailer (Good condition) County

2009 Ford F 350 4X4 truck (Good condition) County

2000 5210 JD Tractor (Good condition) County

Clay County

Program of Operations

I. **Annual operations.**

A. Administration

1. The primary decision making within the Clay County IRVM Program falls upon the Roadside Manager. This includes his, or hers yearly duties as well as seasonal help and the assigned duties of the part-time employees. Minor assigned duties will be given by the Clay County Engineer as deemed by his office.

B. Seasonal Operations

1. It is the primary responsibility of the IRVM Roadside Manager to determine when and how the duties will be performed on a seasonal basis.
 - a. Duties such as chemical weed control, brush and tree removal, prescribed fire implementation, and invasive plant ID and eradication will be the main focus of the Clay County IRVM Program.
 - b. Other duties such as mowing, erosion control, and storm water management will remain with the County Engineers office of operations.

C. Vegetation Establishment

1. The decision of vegetation establishment will remain with the Clay County Engineer. If the Office of the Engineer requests the IRVM office to carry out a

seeding project, then the IRVM staff will complete this project according to the Engineers plan.

2. When IRVM staff of Clay County receives a request from the engineer's office to establish native prairie within a road right-of-way it will meet certain criteria.
 - a. A diverse planting of native grasses and as many forbs species as money allows. This diverse planting will provide a right-of-way that is aesthetically pleasing, beneficial as wildlife habitat, erosion control, and provided water quality benefits. It will also provide a buffer area for pollinators along agricultural fields.
 - b. The planting of plant species will be suitable for the soil type classifications present at the location.
 - c. If the area is subject to very frequent disturbances, such as ditch clean-outs, then only native grasses will be used for soil stabilization and water retention.
3. Identify areas for native prairie establishment along right-of-ways that encompass a larger land mass. Such areas can be visually pleasing, as well as beneficial to local flora and fauna of the local county. Focus for such areas will be targeted towards high traffic areas.

D. Ongoing Maintenance

1. Control of noxious weeds.
 - a. These duties will be performed by the Clay County IRVM Roadside manager. Decisions as beginning and ending spraying season dates, most effective chemicals to use, brush and tree spraying/removal, prescribed fire determination and implementation, and preservation of native plant communities within the county right-of-ways will be performed on an annual work basis.
 - b. All spraying activities will be conducted by the Roadside Manager. This will include both herbicide applications of noxious weeds, invasive plants, and foliar brush spraying. The summer brush crew will be responsible for applying Tordon RTU to cut stumps. RTU is a non-restricted chemical. The use of Tordon RTU will still be over-seen by the Roadside Manager.
 - c. All tree/brush cutting will primarily be done by seasonal employees hired for this purpose. They will be assigned to a quarter of the county per year and cut all brush and trees within the right-of-way. Once brush/tree cut, an application of Tordon RTU will be applied to kill the remaining root system to prevent regrowth. If a tree, or trees, is too large to safely remove them, then it will be the engineer's responsibility to remove them with his larger equipment.
 - d. It will be the responsibility of the Roadside Manager to maintain all records for the IRVM program. This will include daily spray records for both brush and noxious weeds. Records of chemicals purchased for the fiscal year. It will include also giving a yearly report to the county supervisors of chemical usage and how much progress was made in the

county on vegetation management. Finally, all end-of-year reports for state agencies will be completed and returned in a timely manner.

E. Material Procurement

1. Van Diest Suppliers have been the main source of acquiring the various chemicals that have been used over the years by the IRVM Program.
2. Material handling of all chemicals.
 - a. Once on the county premises, all liquid chemicals are stored on chemical containment platform containers to catch any leaks of chemical containers for contamination purposes.
 - b. Dry flowable chemicals are stored on shelving in their proper assigned area next to the liquid chemical area.
 - c. The IRVM Manager will handle all hazardous chemicals that require the proper license for application only. No seasonal staff, or un-licensed personnel shall handle such chemicals, or containers.
 - d. Seasonal staff that are assigned to cut brush within the county right-of-ways will use a general use pesticide such as Tordon RTU or Pathway to treat the cut stumps of brush and trees.
 - e. All empty containers will be properly disposed of according to each manufacturers recommendations. Then the empty containers will be properly disposed of, or recycled if approved by manufacturer.
3. Storage of Chemicals.
 - a. All unused chemicals that have to be stored for the winter months will be stored on containment units in case of a container leaking.
 - b. The chemicals will be stored in the heated portion of the building that is designated for chemical storage.
 - c. At least once a month during the winter months, a quick chemical check will be performed to check for any container leaks.
4. Seed Procurement
 - a. The majority of seed used by the Clay County IRVM Program is seed that is harvested within Clay County itself. With the use of a flail vac, big and little bluestem, Indiangrass, switchgrass, and gray-headed coneflower to harvest seed from these species. Many other specie forb plots we have established on county premises that we harvest from for roadside purposes.
 - b. All the seed harvested is dried down using a bin flooring system with containment walls to dry for storage. Once dry the seed is then cleaned, placed in storage bags and placed the the seed storage area where it is air conditioned during the summer months.
5. Hydro seeding materials.
 - a. Currently, we still have supplies of corn stover mulch purchased a few years ago that is being stored in a portion of the IRVM building.

F. Herbicide Guidelines

1. It will be the responsibility of the roadside manager to determine what herbicides will best fit the current IRVM program.

G. Weed Commissioner

1. Since 2004, the IRVM Roadside Manager has agreed to carry out the duties of Weed Commissioner by enactment of the Clay County Board of Supervisors. However, **these are still two separate county entities and are paid as such.** It is duties of the weed commissioner can be performed during the regular hours of the IRVM manager.
 - a. Duties of the Clay County Weed Commissioner will include enforcing the State-of-Iowa primary and secondary weed laws.
 - b. Issuance of Notice to Destroy Noxious Weeds to individuals, and organizations who have infestations of primary, or secondary noxious weeds on their property.
 - c. Destruction of the weed infestation if the individual responsible for such land fails to comply with the Order to Destroy Notice issued by the weed commissioner. It then becomes the duty of the Weed Commission to determine course of destruction.
 - d. See Appendices for Weed Commissioner Job Description.

Iowa

Noxious weed List

Primary Noxious Weeds

Common Name

Buckthorn
Bull thistle
Canada thistle
Field bindweed
Hoary cress (Perennial Pepper-grass)
Horsenettle
Leafy spurge
Musk thistle
Perennial sowthistle
Quackgrass
Russian knapweed
Tall thistle

Genus and Species

Rhamnus sp.L. except R. Frangula
Cirsium vulgare [Savi] Tenora
Cirsium arvense [L.] Scop
Convolvulus arvensis L.
Cardaria draba [L.] Desv
Solanum carolinense L.
Euphorbia esula L.
Carduus nutans L.
Sonchus arvensis L.
Agropyron repens [L.] Veauv
Centaurea repens L.
Cirsium altissimum [L.] Spreng

Secondary Noxious Weeds

Buckhorn plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.
Cocklebur	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> L.
Wild sunflower	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> L.
Curly Dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i> L.
Poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.
Puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.
Red sorrek (Sheep sorrel)	<i>Rumex acetosella</i> L.
Smooth dock	<i>Rumex latissimus</i> Wood
Teasel	<i>Dipsacus</i> sp.
Velvetleaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i> Medic
Wild carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i> L.
Wild mustard	<i>Brassica kaber</i> (DC)L.C. Wheeler var. <i>Pinnatifida</i> (Stokes) L.C. Wheeler
Multiflora rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>

Appendices

- A. Iowa DOT Map of Clay County
- B. Job Description of IRVM Manager
- C. Job Description of Weed Commissioner
- D. Job description for IRVM Roadside Assistant
- E. Job description for IRVM Summer Worker(s)
- F. Clay County LRTF Funding History

CLAY COUNTY IOWA

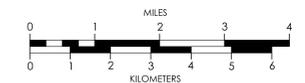


Office of Systems Planning
Phone: (515) 239-1664
www.iowadot.gov/maps



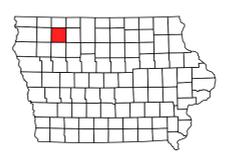
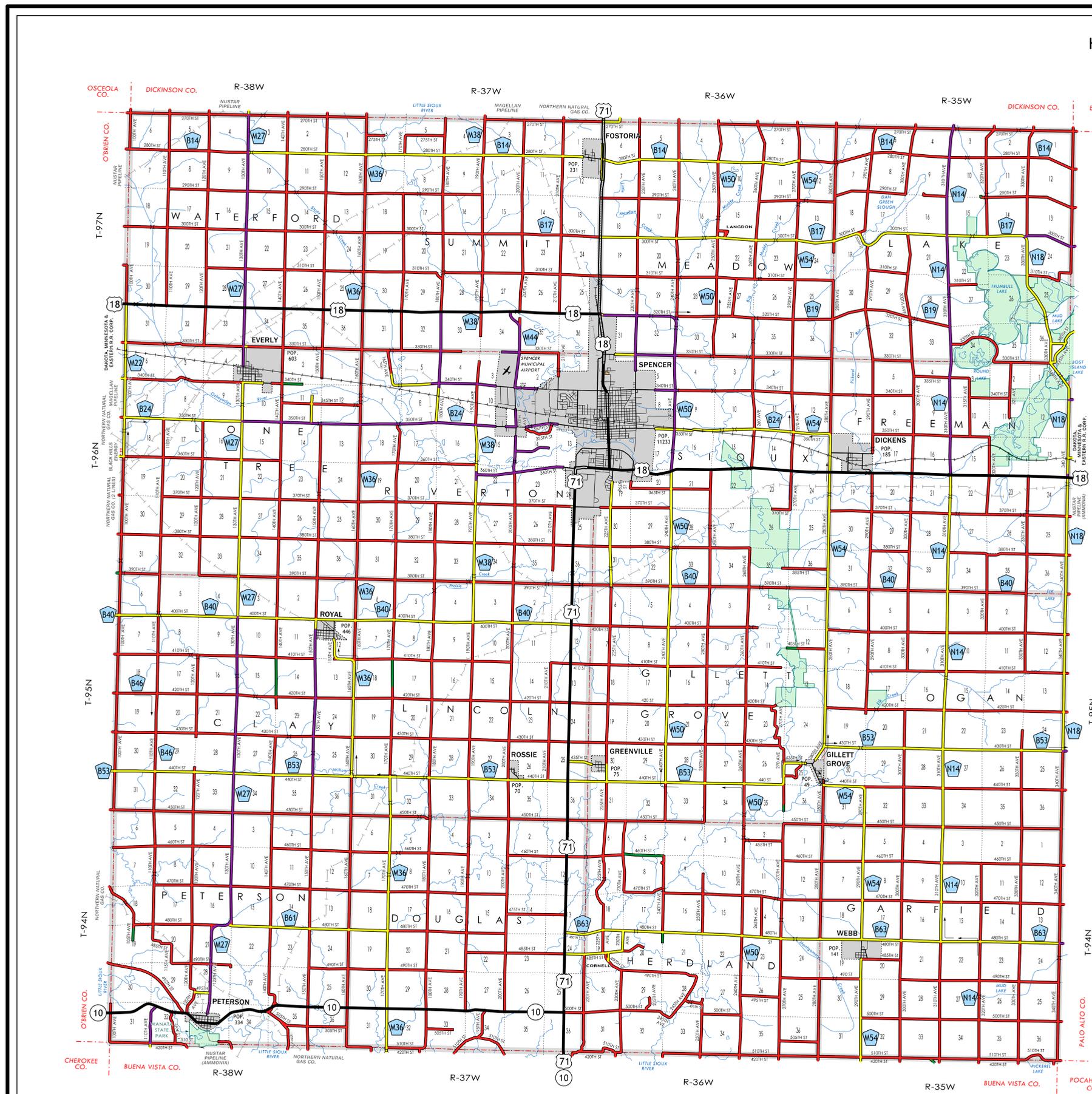
In Cooperation With
United States
Department of Transportation

JANUARY 1, 2016



LEGEND

- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY-DIVIDED
- PRIMARY HIGHWAY
- PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE ROAD
- ASPHALT ROAD
- BITUMINOUS ROAD
- GRAVEL ROAD
- EARTHEN ROAD
- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- UNITED STATES HIGHWAY
- STATE HIGHWAY
- COUNTY HIGHWAY
- RAILROAD
- PIPELINE
- AIRPORT
- HYDROLOGY
- BRIDGE
- STATE BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- CORPORATE BOUNDARY
- TOWNSHIP LINE
- SECTION LINE
- ROAD NAMES
- UNINCORPORATED PLACE
- STATE PARKS
- STATE INSTITUTIONS
- FEDERAL LAND



**CLAY COUNTY
INTEGRATED ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGER
JOB DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS**

DESCRIPTION OF WORK ACTIVITIES:

A permanent position under the direct supervision of the Clay County Conservation Board Director. The manager will implement an integrated roadside management program for Clay County.

Time distribution per year:
95% IRVM
5% Training and Education

The roadside manager will require the assistance of Clay County Conservation Board staff to implement prescribed burns and seeding projects for approximately 25 mandays / year or 10% of the roadside manager's time. Therefore, this time will be made up to the Clay County Conservation Board by performing other activities and projects for the conservation board throughout the course of the year under the direction of the Director.

CERTIFICATION, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- * Possess a valid drivers licence and acquire a CDI, within 6 weeks of commencement of the position.
- * Possess, or acquire and maintain a valid Iowa commercial pesticide applicators license in category 6 (right of way pest control). Others as applicable.
- * Perform chemical and hand control of weeds on shoulders and roadside ditches managed by the county.
- * Plan and safely perform prescribed burns to encourage native plants and discourage weeds.
- * Maintain prescribed burn plans and check response to burns over time.
- * Perform roadside seeding projects utilizing native grasses and forbes.
- * Develop a program for harvesting native grasses and forbes for a seed source.
- * Keep an updated inventory of plants on primary and secondary roads.
- * Work with landowners, utility companies, and the Clay County secondary road department to encourage proper management of roadsides.
- * Educate and work with the public on alternative roadside management techniques.
- * Supervise and coordinate activities of seasonal workers or other county employees assigned to work along the roadsides.
- * Provide media with information on the management of roadsides to gain support and enlist assistance from private individuals.

*Be able to work a non-standard work week; i.e., weekends and early mornings.

*Perform other duties as assigned by the director pertaining to the operation of the Clay County Conservation Board.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in biological sciences, wildlife management, botany, forestry, or closely related field, and one year of full-time employment with a professional natural resource organization; or the equivalent combination of education and experience in related fields for the required education and employment experience.

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

*Knowledge in the identification of all primary and secondary noxious weeds found in Clay County and native prairie plants of northwest Iowa.

*Knowledge of prairie management and techniques.

*Ability to plan, coordinate and safely perform a prescribed burn.

*Ability to work well with and supervise seasonal workers and private landowners in the implementation of a roadside management program.

*Ability to routinely lift 75lbs.

*Ability to lift, bend, jump, climb.

*Ability to clearly express thoughts and ideas both orally and in writing.

*Ability and skills in the safe operation of machinery and tools

*Ability to maintain power equipment, motor vehicles, hand tools, ect..

*Ability to keep an inventory of plants, seed, and herbicides.

*Ability and skills in the operation of computers and software to complete and update a database on the roadside inventory.

*Ability to operate a 35mm camera for photo documentation of plants and weeds along roadsides.

*Ability to work effectively under all weather conditions in northwest Iowa.

*Ability to follow written and oral instructions.

*Ability and desire to continue professional education to remain knowledgeable of issues, trends, and tech techniques relative to IRVM.

SALARY AND BENEFITS:

Salary Range:

Benefits:

Iowa Code 317.3 – Weed commissioner

Current as of: 2016 | *Check for updates!* *Other versions*

The board of supervisors of each county may annually appoint a county weed commissioner who may be a person otherwise employed by the county and who passes minimum standards established by the department of agriculture and land stewardship for noxious weed identification and the recognized methods for noxious weed control and elimination. The county weed commissioner's appointment shall be effective as of March 1 and shall continue for a term at the discretion of the board of supervisors unless the commissioner is removed from office as provided for by law. The county weed commissioner may, with the approval of the board of supervisors, require that commercial applicators and their appropriate employees pass the same standards for noxious weed identification as established by the department of agriculture and land stewardship. The name and address of the person appointed as county weed commissioner shall be certified to the county auditor and to the secretary of agriculture within ten days of the appointment. The board of supervisors shall fix the compensation of the county weed commissioner and deputies. In addition to compensation, the commissioner and deputies shall be paid their necessary travel expenses. At the discretion of the board of supervisors, the weed commissioner shall attend a seminar or school conducted or approved by the department of agriculture and land stewardship relating to the identification, control, and elimination of noxious weeds.

The board of supervisors shall prescribe the time of year the weed commissioner shall perform the powers and duties of county weed commissioner under this chapter which may be during that time of year when noxious weeds can effectively be killed. Compensation shall be for the period of actual work only although a weed commissioner assigned other duties not related to weed eradication may receive an annual salary. The board of supervisors shall likewise determine whether employment shall be by hour, day or month and the rate of pay for the employment time.

Clay County Conservation Board
IRVM Roadside Assistant

Roadside Assistant: - \$11.00 / hour – 1 position available

Duties will include:

- Equipment Maintenance
- Handling and storage of chemical and supplies
- Driving Roadside Manager while manager operates spray equipment
- Assist with Hydro-seeder seedings
- Assist with controlled prairie burns on public and private grounds
- Brush removal
- Assist other county employees with job duties as needed
- Seeding of native grasses and forbes
- Work may include some weekends
- Other duties as assigned

Clay County Conservation Board
Seasonal Job Description

Natural Resource aide: - \$10.00 / hour – 3 positions available

Duties will include:

- Maintenance of park facilities and natural resource areas,
- Facility and area cleanup
- Mowing painting
- Other general park maintenance activities.
- Workers will spend time with the IRVM program
- Duties will include driving of spray truck
- Brush removal
- Seeding of native grasses and forbes
- Work may include some weekends
- Other duties as assigned

Clay County LRTF Funding History through FY 2017

DOT Project Number	Applicant	Award	FiscalYear Description	Type
90-21-LRTF-001	Clay County	\$ 1,500.00	2000 Seed storage	County
90-21-LRTF-201	Clay County	\$ 12,780.00	2002 Equipment - GPS/GIS spray components	County
90-21-LRTF-301	Clay County	\$ 14,000.00	2003 Equipment - Hydro seeder	County
90-21-LRTF-401	Clay County	\$ 500.00	2004 Equipment - Bag closer	County
90-21-LRTF-402	Clay County	\$ 2,640.00	2004 Equipment - Two-way radio	County
90-21-LRTF-601	Clay County IRVM	\$ 5,000.00	2006 Equipment - Polaris utility vehicle	County
90-21-LRTF-701	Clay County Conservation Board	\$ 5,895.00	2007 Equipment - Fire	County
90-21-LRTF-801	Clay County Conservation Board	\$ 460.30	2008 Equipment - Burn supplies	County

Total LRTF Funding Awarded FY1990 - FY2017	\$ 42,775.30
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