

Title: Beaver Harvest Program

Policy No: 6321

Effective Date: July 12, 2022

Motion Number: 22.07.416

Supersedes Policy No: 6321

Review Date: July, 2025



Purpose: Greenview is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from water movement problems related to problematic beaver activity. Greenview will implement the policy and procedures to provide for the harvest of beavers and/or removal of beaver dams, for the purpose of preventing damage to infrastructure and flooding caused by problem beavers.

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 **Eligible participant** means a registered landowner within the boundaries of Greenview or, with written permission, their designate. Greenview Wildlife Personnel are ineligible to participate in the incentive program.
- 1.2 **Financial compensation** means the sum set out in this policy which is payable to eligible participants once program criteria has been satisfied.
- 1.3 **Greenview** means the Municipal District of Greenview No. 16.
- 1.4 **Problem Beaver** means a beaver whose activity causes operational and/or structural issues to municipal infrastructure, private infrastructure, or agricultural lands.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

- 2.1 Greenview Administration shall prioritize the harvesting of beaver and/or removal of beaver dams in the following order:
 - A) Areas that occur on Greenview land and cause operational and/or structural integrity issues to municipal infrastructure (i.e., roads, bridges, culverts etc.) at no cost to the landowner.
 - B) Areas that occur on Greenview land that is currently or has the potential to cause damage/flooding to private land such as yard sites and agricultural crops, and pastureland at no cost to the landowner.
 - C) Areas that occur on drainage ditches registered by Greenview to prevent flooding of agricultural land at no cost to the landowner.
- 2.2 Greenview shall hold a valid Damage Control License authorizing the removal of beavers.
- 2.3 Greenview shall implement a Beaver Harvest Incentive Program that will pay a bounty for each beaver harvested by a ratepayer or resident within the municipal boundaries of Greenview in accordance with the policy procedure.

- A) The bounty for this program shall be established by the current Schedules of Fees Bylaw
 - i. The bounty may be paid by means of electronic funds transfer.
- B) Problem Wildlife personnel employed or specifically contracted by Greenview are exempt from this program.

2.4 Greenview will maintain a license authorizing the appropriate handling and use of explosives for the purpose of blasting beaver dams (i.e., licensed magazine, certified blaster).

2.5 Landowners with beaver issues on private, leased or grazing lands are encouraged to rectify the issue independently.

3. PROCEDURE

3.1. All beaver dam removal on designated watercourses must comply with all relevant acts (i.e., Fisheries Act, Alberta’s Water Act, Public Lands Act etc.).

3.2. The Manager of Agricultural Services, or their designate, shall work with internal departments and the public on harvesting and/or removing beaver dams in accordance with section 2.1 of this policy.

3.3. The Manager of Agricultural Services, or their designate, shall ensure the delivery of the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program.

3.4. Beavers harvested under the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program will be compensated upon a signed declaration of the following:

- a) The legal land location where the beaver was harvested.
- b) The date of harvest.
- c) The harvest was conducted in a lawful manner, in accordance with current legislation.
- d) The participant had permission to harvest on said land.
- e) The beaver tail is marked by a Greenview employee, in the presence of the individual who harvested the animal.

3.5. Disposal of all beavers submitted under the Beaver Harvest Incentive Program will be the responsibility of the person submitting the carcass/tail after proper submission procedures have taken place.

3.6. Greenview personnel may conduct random sight checks to ensure the integrity of the Beaver Harvest Program.