

Noxious Weeds

Mission: *Promote and perform sustainable noxious weed management practices that maintain or improve agricultural productivity in Sedgwick County.*

Mark Furry
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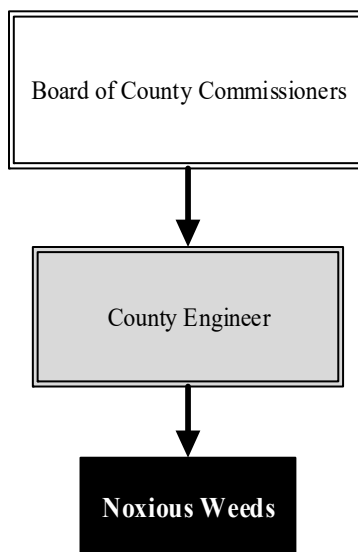
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Overview

Agriculture is a significant part of Sedgwick County's economy, generating over \$250.0 million in 2021. Noxious Weeds focuses on increasing crop production by reducing weed competition, thus increasing the profit and sustainability of the County's agriculture partners. Priorities include treating County-owned right-of-ways for noxious and other weeds, providing herbicides at a cost share price to County residents to control noxious weeds on their properties, and provide education about noxious weed control to citizens and other governing bodies.

To fulfill these priorities, each staff member holds a Commercial Applicator license from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, enforces State noxious weed laws, and helps citizens fulfill their responsibilities through education on effective techniques and products.



Strategic Goals:

- *Increase property owners' voluntary compliance with State laws related to noxious weeds*
- *Where voluntary compliance control cannot be achieved, follow through with legal procedures outlined in the State Noxious Weed laws*
- *Maintain partnerships with public agencies to ensure that right-of-ways and public properties are free of noxious weeds*

Highlights

- Inspected and treated as needed over 500 properties (approximately 10,000 acres) with musk thistle, over 50 properties with sericea lespedeza, and properties with other noxious weeds upon request
- Seeded several Public Works projects including ditches that were cleaned, widened, and regraded in several areas of the County
- Treated five township right-of-ways for Johnson grass and field bindweed



Accomplishments and Strategic Results

Accomplishments

The Noxious Weeds Department puts much thought into the purchase of herbicides and equipment each year as the Department reviews existing programs to evaluate the need, desired results, and costs involved. Noxious Weeds also works to improve efficiencies and mitigate environmental impact by constantly looking at potential application techniques, improved equipment, and materials that work better, faster, are safe to the environment, and more cost effective.

The Noxious Weeds Department also provides vegetation management for Public Works projects and roadways. This includes treating county right-of-ways to suppress perennial grasses and control undesirable weeds; planting and treatment after road and bridge project completion to maximize a weed free environment; planting native grasses along revitalized stream banks to help control erosion; and mowing, treatment, and planting along County maintained bike paths to ensure public safety and enjoyment.

Strategic Results

The Noxious Weeds Department completes inspections and treats noxious weeds on County and State owned properties in Sedgwick County. Their goal is to inspect at least 75.0 percent of the total acres of State lands. Last year, Noxious Weeds inspected, and treated as needed, 2,424 acres of property owned by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), completing 84.0 percent of the contracted amount. Another goal is to inspect, and treated as needed, 75.0 percent of County-owned property. Noxious Weeds inspected, and treated as needed, 4,325 of 4,693 acres, or 92.0 percent, of County-owned property in 2024.

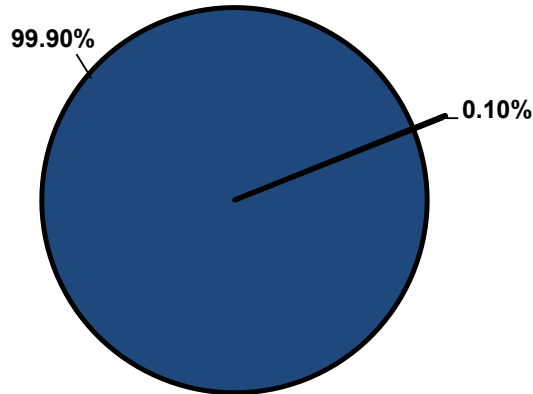


Significant Budget Adjustments

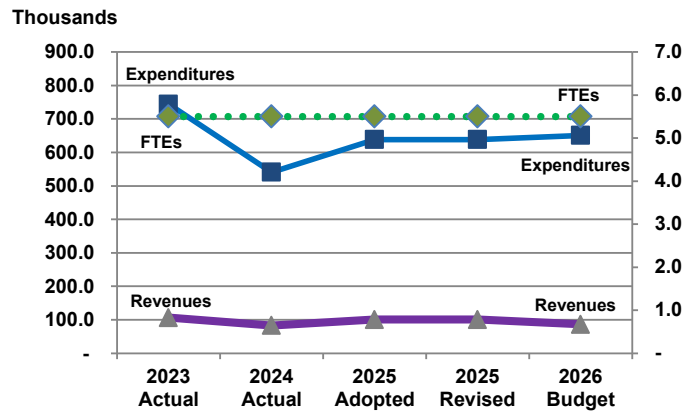
Significant adjustments to Noxious Weeds' 2026 budget include a decrease in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with actuals (\$13,939).

Departmental Graphical Summary

Noxious Weeds
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amount Chg '25 Rev.-'26	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26
Expenditures							
Personnel	383,641	377,686	454,303	454,303	462,156	7,853	1.73%
Contractual Services	103,067	76,269	84,514	84,514	88,916	4,402	5.21%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	93,493	86,853	99,629	99,629	99,629	-	0.00%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers	164,016	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	744,216	540,807	638,446	638,446	650,701	12,255	1.92%
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	4,293	-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for Services	101,770	83,224	100,526	100,526	86,586	(13,939)	-13.87%
All Other Revenue	215	-	223	223	-	(223)	-100.00%
Total Revenues	106,278	83,224	100,749	100,749	86,586	(14,163)	-14.06%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	-	0.00%
Non-Property Tax Funded	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total FTEs	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	-	0.00%

Budget Summary by Fund

Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amount Chg '25 Rev.-'26	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26
Noxious Weeds	105,538	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Fund	638,678	540,807	638,446	638,446	650,701	12,255	1.92%
Total Expenditures	744,216	540,807	638,446	638,446	650,701	12,255	1.92%

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

	Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
Decrease in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals		(13,939)	

Total	-	(13,939)	-
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Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26	25-'26' FTEs
Noxious Weeds	Multi.	744,216	540,807	638,446	638,446	650,701	1.92%	5.50
Total		744,216	540,807	638,446	638,446	650,701	1.92%	5.50

