

Noxious Weeds

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

Mark Furry
Director of Noxious Weeds

901 W. Stillwell St.
 Wichita, KS 67217

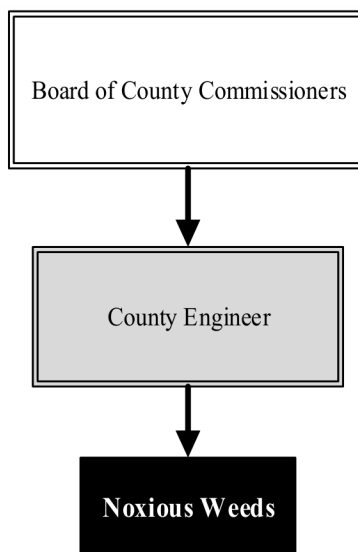
316.660.7459

mark.furry@sedgwick.gov

Overview

Agriculture is a significant part of Sedgwick County's economy, generating over \$250.0 million in 2021, based on ten-year agricultural census data. 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 550 properties (approximately 12,000 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

One of the Noxious Weed Department's strategic goals is to maintain partnerships with public agencies to ensure public right-of-ways and public properties are free of noxious weeds. A couple of measures for that goal includes inspecting the right-of-ways for noxious weeds, and, based on these inspections, treat noxious weeds that are present. The target is to inspect at least 80.0 percent of these right-of-ways, and Noxious Weeds was able to inspect 86.7 percent for field bindweed and 79.1 percent for Johnson grass in 2025. Based on these inspections, the Department treated 1,555 acres for field bindweed and 310 acres for Johnson grass.

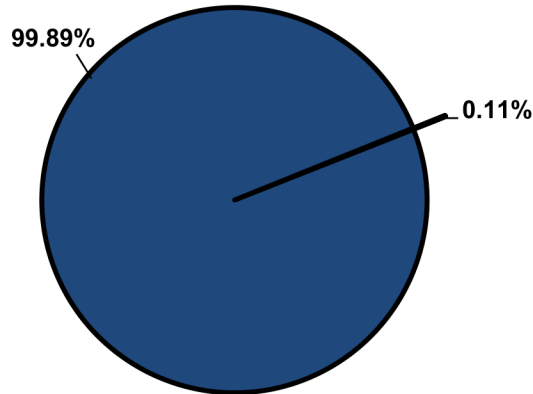


Significant Budget Adjustments

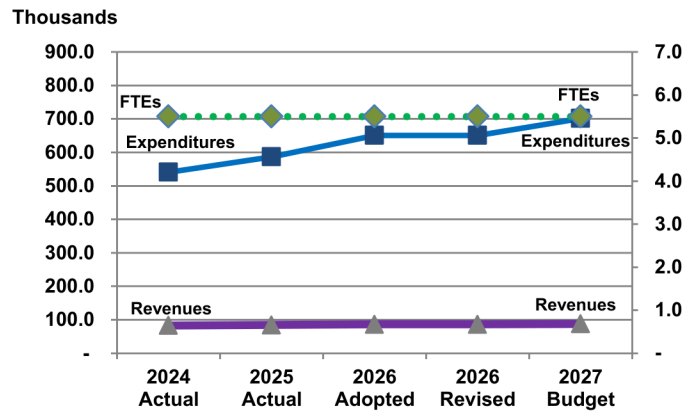
There are no significant adjustments to Noxious Weeds' 2027 Recommended Budget.

Departmental Graphical Summary

Noxious Weeds
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
Expenditures							
Personnel	377,686	423,084	462,156	462,156	509,178	47,023	10.17%
Contractual Services	76,269	74,508	88,916	88,916	92,557	3,641	4.09%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	86,853	89,011	99,629	99,629	99,629	-	0.00%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	540,807	586,603	650,701	650,701	701,364	50,664	7.79%
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for Services	83,224	84,514	86,586	86,586	87,928	1,342	1.55%
All Other Revenue	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	83,224	84,517	86,586	86,586	87,928	1,342	1.55%
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	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
Noxious Weeds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Fund	540,807	586,603	650,701	650,701	701,364	50,664	7.79%
Total Expenditures	540,807	586,603	650,701	650,701	701,364	50,664	7.79%

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
--------------	----------	------

Total	-	-	-
-------	---	---	---

Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27	26-'27' FTEs
Noxious Weeds	Multi.	540,807	586,603	650,701	650,701	701,364	7.79%	5.50
Total		540,807	586,603	650,701	650,701	701,364	7.79%	5.50

