



6-24-2024

Dear Valued Customer,

This letter is to inform you that in the coming weeks, our Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) selective spot herbicide application activities will be beginning in your area. Your electricity provider - Arrowhead Cooperative - has contracted their selective spot herbicide application to Friest Tree Experts. A crew member from their spray team - Upper Plains Aviation - will be organizing the applications and will be communicating to members that will have work performed across their property. All Upper Plains Aviation crew members are licensed by the State of Minnesota and the Department of Agriculture. The majority of the spraying is achieved through Drone technology (pictured above).

This drone will be spraying a variety of chemicals to help eliminate noxious weeds, henceforth upholding the beauty of Northern Minnesota. One of the chemicals hand selected is Tordon 22k, a product specializing in treating woody plants that are disrupting Right of Ways. This, paired with Surfactant 90, will ensure an even coverage with little to no drift. Added in will also be Arsenal Powerline, and Escort XP for various other unwanted pests. For additional questions or concerns about what is being sprayed, please refer to EPA Labeling or contact the applicator.

Selective spot herbicide application is used to control unwanted vegetation within the right-of-way corridors. No application will be performed on maintained yards, or where the property owner is actively clearing and maintaining the Right of Way. Buffer areas will be maintained along streams, rivers and other waterways. The application will be targeting taller growing vegetation, such as Aspen and Birch, and leaving desirable lower growing vegetation whenever possible.

The benefits of spraying with a drone are staggering. First and foremost, a drone can provide a more efficient application with unprecedented accuracy. The rotary nozzles provide the best in the industry broadcast that ensures that the product goes exactly where it was intended to do, without threat of drifting into yards, pastures, or gardens. Additionally, the drone benefits from electric motors that provide unmatched liftoff power and less environmental strain versus a conventional diesel tractor.

Arrowhead Cooperative has an 'opt-out' of IVM treatment, if you so desire. This selective spot herbicide application comes at no extra cost to your membership. There is a monthly charge for the duration of 5 years if you would like to opt-out of the herbicide portion of our IVM plan. The extra charge is to offset the much higher cost of only using mechanical means to maintain the vegetation within the Right of Way. The opt-out charge is \$5.54 per span (roughly 250' or Pole to Pole).

Please look out for an email with the same information, if you haven't already received it. For any questions regarding opting out, please contact Arrowhead Cooperative at (218) 663-7239. For questions about application, please contact Ben at (605) 496-3251. We look forward to helping preserve the Right of Ways!

~Benjamin Daggett  
Aerial Application Management Division  
Friest Tree Experts