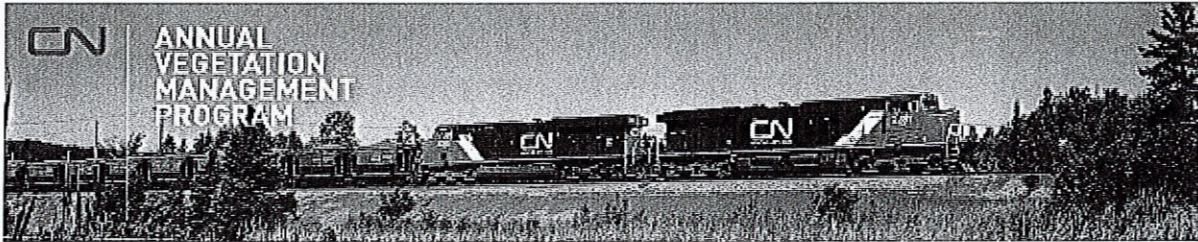


## Lore Schick

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**From:** Public Inquiry Line <CONTACT@cn.ca>  
**Sent:** April 24, 2019 2:18 PM  
**To:** Steve Forseth  
**Subject:** NOTICE - CN RIGHT-OF-WAY VEGETATION CONTROL  
**Attachments:** Notice\_BC.pdf; FAQ\_EN.pdf



Dear Director Forseth:

At CN, we are committed to environmental safety and sustainability. We are reaching out in order to advise you, that we will be undertaking vegetation control activities for safety purposes, in your area between June 3, 2019 and July 31, 2019. This information will also be made available on the CN website ( [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation)) shortly.

If not managed properly, trees, brush or other vegetation can severely compromise public safety, including by impeding the view motorists have of incoming trains, increasing the risk of crossing accidents. Moreover, unwanted vegetation can damage the integrity of the railway, increasing the risk of incidents, interfere with signals and switches, contribute to track side fires, compromise employee safety, reduce visibility for train crews at road crossings, of signals and other track side warning devices, to name only a few risks. Our annual vegetation control program is designed to mitigate these risks by eliminating brush, weeds and other undesirable vegetation.

For 2019, CN has retained Asplundh Services to conduct vegetation control along its Canadian rail network.

Should your Town/City have any noxious weed removal requests, we ask that you contact CN's Public Inquiry Line at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca) before June 26, 2019 with the specific information and location. CN will make every effort to include those locations as part of our 2019 Vegetation Management Program. All notices sent after the above mentioned date will be included in the 2020 Vegetation Control Management Plan.

We look forward to collaborating with you and answering any questions you may have regarding our vegetation control activities in your community. In that respect, please find attached the Notices CN is publishing in local papers in order to advise the public. We would kindly ask that you post copies on your Community's website and at City Hall or other central locations for a wider distribution.

For any questions or more information, please contact the CN Public Inquiry Line by telephone at 1-888-888-5909, or by email at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca).

For your convenience, please also find attached a list of FAQ's regarding the program that may be of further assistance.

Best Regards,

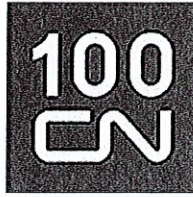


## **Public Inquiry Line**

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**E : [Contact@cn.ca](mailto:Contact@cn.ca)**

**T: 1-888-888-5909**



**COMMUNITY NOTICE**  
**Annual Vegetation Management Program**

CN is required to clear its rights-of-way from any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway rights-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure.

As such, for safe railway operations, the annual vegetation control program will be carried out on CN rail lines in the province of British Columbia. A certified applicator will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (mainly the graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

At this time, we expect that the program will take place from June 3, 2019 to June 30, 2019.

Visit [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation) to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, you may contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5000.





# **Annual Vegetation Management Program/ Programme annuel de contrôle de la végétation**

## **English:**

Please note that the below information is based on our latest projections. Therefore, the information and is subject to change at any time. We encourage you to continue checking our website as it will be updated as the Vegetation program progresses.

## **Français:**

Veuillez noter que les informations ci-dessous sont basées sur nos projections les plus récentes et sont susceptibles de changer à tout moment. Nous vous encourageons à consulter notre site Web régulièrement car les informations seront mises à jour à mesure que le programme Végétation avance.

British Columbia	Ballast		Right-of-Way / Emprise	
	Start / Début	End / Fin	Coming Soon Start / Début	End / Fin
Cariboo Regional District Area A	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area B	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area C	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area D	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area E	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area F	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area G	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area H	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area I	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area J	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area K	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Cariboo Regional District Area L	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Abbotsford	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Armstrong	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Burnaby	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Chilliwack	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Coquitlam	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Dawson Creek	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Fort St. John	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Kamloops	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Kelowna	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Langley	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of New Westminster	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of North Vancouver	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Prince George	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Prince Rupert	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Quesnel	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Richmond	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Salmon Arm	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Surrey	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Terrace	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Vancouver	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		



**Annual Vegetation Management Program/  
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City of Vernon	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
City of Williams Lake	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Corporation of Delta	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Barriere	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Chetwynd	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Clearwater	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Coldstream	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Fort St. James	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Hope	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Houston	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Kitimat	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Lillooet	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Mackenzie	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of New Hazelton	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of North Vancouver	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of One Hundred Mile House	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Port Edward	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Squamish	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Taylor	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Tumbler Ridge	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of Vanderhoof	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
District of West Vancouver	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area B	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area D	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area G	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area H	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Northern Rockies Regional Municipality	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako, Electoral Area B	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako, Electoral Area C	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako, Electoral Area D	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako, Electoral Area A	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako, Electoral Area E	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Bulkley- Nechako, Electoral Area G (Houston Rural)	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Fraser Valley Electoral Area A	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Electoral Area D ( Tabor Lake - Stone Creek )	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Electoral Area F (Willow River - Upper Fraser)	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		





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Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Electoral Area G ( Crooked River - Parsnip)	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Electoral Area H (Robson Valley - Canoe)	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area B	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area C	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, Electoral Area E	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Peace River Electoral Area B	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Peace River Electoral Area C	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Peace River Electoral Area D	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Squamish- Lillooet Electoral Area C	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Squamish- Lillooet Electoral Area D	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Thompson- Nicola Electoral Area O Lower North Thompson	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Regional District of Thompson- Nicola Electoral Area P Rivers and the Peaks	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Resort Municipality of Whistler	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Electoral Area B	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
THOMPSON-NICOLA Regional district Electoral Area A	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Thompson-Nicola Regional District Electoral Area B (Thompson Headwaters)	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
THOMPSON-NICOLA Regional district Electoral Area E	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
THOMPSON-NICOLA Regional district Electoral Area I	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Town of Smithers	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Township of Langley	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Township of Spallumcheen	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Ashcroft	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Burns Lake	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Clinton	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Fraser Lake	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Hazelton	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Lions Bay	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Lytton	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of McBride	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Pemberton	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Slocan	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		



**Annual Vegetation Management Program/  
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Village of Telkwa	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		
Village of Valemount	June 7, 2019	June 27, 2019		





### FAQ'S

***Where can I get more information about CN's vegetation management program?***

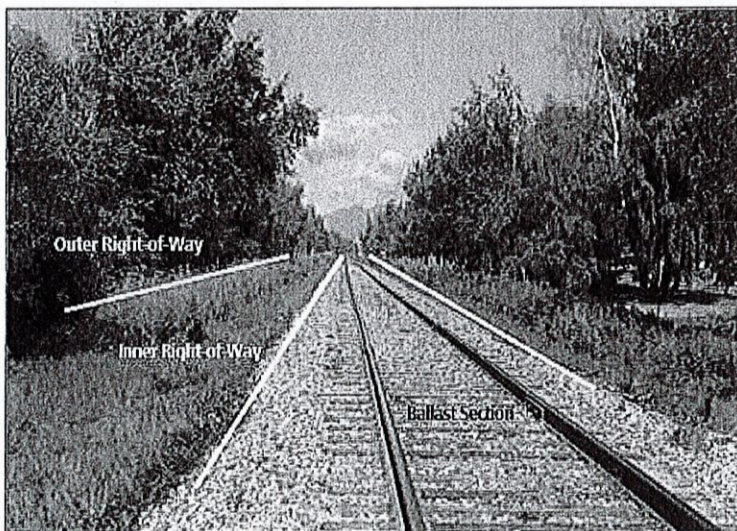
For more details about CN's Annual Vegetation Management Program, please visit our website at [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation)

***Why does CN need to remove vegetation along its train tracks annually?***

Safety at CN is one of our most important core values, and part of maintaining and operating a safe railway is ensuring vegetation is managed along our corridor. CN also has an obligation, pursuant to the *Rules Respecting Track Safety*, adopted under the *Railway Safety Act*, to ensure that vegetation on or immediately adjacent to the railway roadbed is controlled. More specifically, the Rules require federal railways to ensure the track is free of vegetation that could create fire hazards, affect the track integrity or obstruct visibility of operations and inspections. Separate regulations also require removal of vegetation to ensure every grade crossing meets sightline requirements.

***Where does CN remove vegetation?***

Please note that for the management of vegetation, CN divides its corridor into two components: the ballast and the right of way. The ballast section (graveled area) covers a 16ft width (4.9m). The right of way section covers a 42ft width (13m) on each side of the ballast (graveled area).



Vegetation in the right of way section needs to be controlled to protect sight lines for train crews to see signal systems and at road crossings, prevent trees from fouling the track during storms, reduce fuel loading to prevent fires, minimize wildlife mortality, ensure

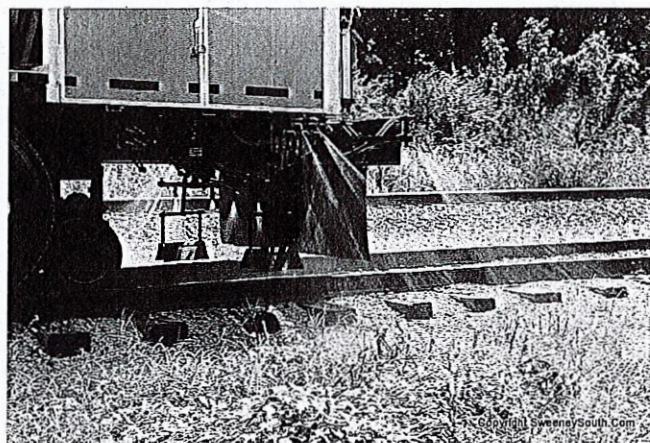
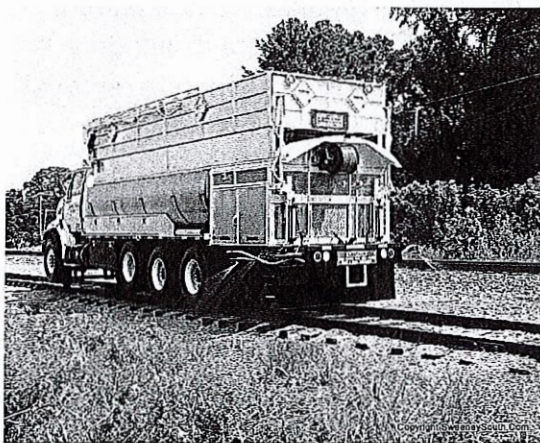




## Annual Vegetation Management Program

good drainage along ditches and culverts, amongst other safety requirements and is primarily controlled mechanically, through mowing and cutting of vegetation. Certain herbicide products are used (excluding glyphosate) to encourage grasses and small plants rather than shrubs and trees.

The ballast section, on the other hand, is the most critical area as it supports the track infrastructure which supports the movement of freight and passengers; this section also provides an area for train crew to safely inspect their train. Given the crucial role it plays in ensuring the safety and integrity of rail operations, this section must be devoid of all vegetation. The only proven way to effectively remove vegetation in the ballast section is through chemical application.



### ***How will you manage dry plants and herbs left once the spraying is complete?***

Ensuring vegetation is controlled on an annual basis is the best method to reduce larger volumes of dead and dry plants. This is because it kills plants when they are smaller which reduces the amount and volume of dead plant material. CN's 2019 program has been developed specifically with this in mind. Most plants, once dead, will naturally decay leaving little debris. As for the right of way, the herbicides used are selective and the grass cover will remain intact while any broadleaved species or noxious weeds will be controlled.

### ***Will you be using Glyphosate. If so, is it dangerous for us or my pets ?***

All pesticides used in Canada must be registered by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and CN only uses pesticides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the Province within which they are applied. Protection of human health and the environment is Health Canada's primary





## Annual Vegetation Management Program

objective in the regulation of pesticides and all pesticides must undergo rigorous science-based assessments before being approved for sale in Canada. The PMRA also re-evaluates registered pesticides on a cyclical basis to ensure they continue to meet modern health and environmental standards. In this regard, the PMRA re-evaluated glyphosate in 2017 and reaffirmed its conclusions that products containing glyphosate do not present risks of concern to human health or the environment when used in accordance with revised label directions. CN's vegetation control contractor uses glyphosate in accordance with label directions.

***Has CN tried any non-chemical weed control options in the past, such as weed whacking? Have they worked?***

CN has used weed cutting in the past to control vegetation, but this does not remove the roots, and actually encourages more growth, therefore it is not an effective long-term solution for vegetation removal along railway tracks. The application of steam injection has also been investigated; however they have proven ineffective in killing the roots, which could compromise the integrity of the rail bed.

CN has also explored other options, such as high concentrate vinegar (acetic acid), however this was deemed not a viable option as the acid reacts negatively with steel and the sensitive electronic monitoring equipment used to regulate safe movement and operation of trains.

***I am an organic farmer adjacent to your tracks, should I be worried?***

Most of the vegetation control focuses on the ballast section (graveled area) which is 16ft (4.9 meters) wide, leaving about 13 meters of right of way on each side of the ballast. The equipment used for application is a shrouded boom which focuses the spray downward to reduce potential drift. Application must also be done during appropriate weather conditions, including low wind levels.

***Can I request my area not be sprayed?***

Safety is of utmost importance to CN and vegetation control is a key component of keeping our employees and the communities in which we operate safe. Ensuring vegetation is kept clear of our infrastructure, signals, road crossing sight lines and enabling our teams to inspect and maintain the track is critically important. As a result, we cannot choose to have a reduced safety management process in some areas and so all areas of the CN ballast section must be treated to control vegetation.