

# Vehicle Hygiene Protocol



WAP 2.1.1.9

## NSW Invasive Species Plan. Goal 1: Eradicate or Contain

Eliminate, or prevent the spread of new invasive species

2.1 Timely detection of new incursion

## Regional Weed Strategy. Aim: Preventative Weed Management

No new weeds established over the life of the RWS

1.3.1 Develop vehicle hygiene protocol and promote as best practice

The smallest of seeds can be carried far and wide by vehicles, machinery and equipment potentially spreading weeds to farms and bushland across the Riverina. Although preventing the spread of weeds can be difficult, it is the cheapest and most effective method of weed control.

The purpose of this protocol is to ensure a consistent approach across the Riverina towards vehicle hygiene. The below details three easy steps to **prevent weed spread!**:



### Avoid driving through infestations:

- Be aware of weed infestations
- Avoid driving in weed infested areas especially in wet & dewy conditions
- Avoid operating in infestations during peak seed production

### Inspect and clean clothing and equipment:

- Inspect and clean vehicles, machinery and equipment suspected of carrying weed seed before moving on
- Inspect and clean clothing and footwear before stepping into vehicles
- Inspect and clean vehicles before entering a property

### Report suspicious plants:

- Work in clean areas (or areas with least amount of infestation) first and work towards infested or high density areas
- Keep high risk sites & pathways free of weeds
- Maintain buffer zones and encourage 'come clean, go clean'

Desired outcome:

**Early detection is the key to effectively controlling weed infestations, and if new sites are found early eradication may be possible.**

## Legal responsibilities

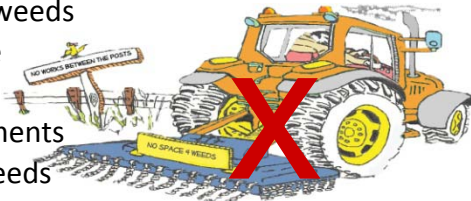
Under Section 30 (1) of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 "a person must not scatter or cause to be scattered on any land or water any notifiable weed material or other noxious weed material prescribed by the regulations, knowing it to be such weed material."

Current Riverina hygiene projects



Red guide posts are being installed along roadsides throughout the Riverina to:

- Identify known locations of noxious weeds
- Alert machinery operators of the site
- Encourage liaison with local council weed officers on each site's requirements
- Prevent further spread of noxious weeds



If you come across a red guide post on the roadside, please contact the local council weed officer before entering the site. Figure 1 – example of red guide posts. “Start” of infestation and “End” of infestation. No works between the posts!



www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds

The ‘NSW – No Space 4 Weeds’ program is a state-wide weed awareness program. It highlights that weeds are everyone’s problem and provides opportunities for the community of NSW to become

part of the solution. The current theme is hygiene ‘make a difference – at home at work at play’. Figure 2 (Boat ramp signage installed across the Riverina), Figure 3 (hygiene awareness billboard on display throughout the Riverina) and Figure 4 (NSW DPI hygiene poster) are some of the resources from this campaign.



Figure 5. Tumbarumba Shire’s vehicle wash down bay.

Linkages and resources

- QLD Weed Spread Prevention Strategy
- QLD checklist for Inspection Procedures
- A guide for machinery hygiene for civil construction

<http://www.civilcontractors.com/resource-guide-for-machinery-hygiene-for-civil-construction-available-for-general-use>



Note: All WAP documents can be downloaded at [www.riverinaweeds.org.au/documents](http://www.riverinaweeds.org.au/documents)