



**BIRCH HILLS COUNTY
POLICY & PROCEDURES MANUAL
BEAVER CONTROL**

POLICY TITLE: Beaver Control Policy

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Date Adopted by Council / Motion Number: January 15, 2013

RC13-003

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Policy is to help protect the integrity of the county road system. The responsibility of the beaver (Genus Castor) rests with the province of Alberta. The objective Birch Hills County is to establish the role of the municipality towards providing beaver control and beaver dam removal on private or provincial land.

POLICY

Birch Hills County will only undertake the removal of beaver or beaver dams from private property of public lands if the removal of beaver or beaver dams serves to protect the integrity of the county road system.

LEGISLATION:

The beaver is not a declared pest under the Agricultural Pest Act – Pest & Nuisance Control Regulation in the Province of Alberta. Birch Hills County has no legislated duty to provide beaver control and beaver dam removal on private or provincial land.

PROCEDURE:

- 1.0 Beaver and beaver dam written complaints received by the County will be filed with the Public Works.
- 2.0 If the problem occurs on or affects private land and crown land the owner/leaseholder must contact Alberta Sustainable Resources Development.
- 3.0 If the problem occurs on or affects County property, the Director of Public Works or the County Representative will take appropriate action to rectify the situation which will include but not limited to contacting Alberta Sustainable Resources Development.
- 4.0 Every attempt will be made to contact a trapper to remove the beaver first and foremost.
- 5.0 Written consent for the County to enter on any non County owned land must be signed, copied and possessed by all parties including County official, land or lease owner, affected by the beaver or beaver dam before any work is to commence.
- 6.0 If deemed applicable by the Director of Public Works or County Representative that a beaver dam is to be removed by machinery then such work will commence. If the use of removal by machinery is not an option the County will contract a demolition crew (Ticketed Explosive Crew) prearranged by the County. Use of a firearm by any County employee for the purposes of beaver removal is strictly prohibited.

This Bylaw repeals all previous Birch Hills County bylaws and resolutions regarding the provision Re: Beaver Control in Drainage Ditches Policy #28.

REEVE

C.A.O