

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** Kellieann Morris  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** Rhonda@dalyditches.com; Greg Chilcott; Dan Huls; Jeff Burrows; Chris Taggart; Shawn Thorning  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Daly Ditches Hazard

Good Afternoon Rhoda,

I have been receiving concern emails and calls from some folks about the noxious weed spraying on county property on Kurtz lane and I would like to address those so you have answers to tell folks that have concern as well.

The property at 192 Kurtz lane Hamilton Montana is owned by the county and per state statute Title 7, Chapter 22 Sections 7-22-2101 Through 7-22-2154 the law is clear on the treatments of state and county listed noxious weeds. This property is treated about every two years. The noxious weeds present are:

Spotted Knapweed

Common Tansy

Canada Thistle

Oxeye daisy

Yellow flag Iris

Hounds tongue

Kochia and more

Most of weeds are coming onto the property from the irrigation canal, therefore the canal banks must be treated to help mitigate the weeds from coming on the property. The majority of these weeds must be treated with herbicides as other methods of control simply do not work. Ravalli County has a very active weed management plan and the county weed department does what it can to follow it.

The Herbicide used on the ditch banks was a product called Aquaneat (EPA Regulations number 22-365). This product is approved to use right in the water, it will only affect plants that are immersed from the water and plants on dry ground. It will not travel in the water system and contaminate anyone else's property. The product is designed to dissipate once it hits the water. So this is the appropriate product to use in this area. We also used Rifle D EPA # 34704-869 and Escort EPA # 432-1549 on the land portion of the county owned property. Again state law 7-22-2116 simply says (1) it is unlawful for any person to permit any noxious weed to propagate or go to seed on the person's land, except that any person who adheres to the noxious weed management program of the person's weed management district or who has entered into and in the compliance with the noxious weed management agreement is considered to be in compliance with section.

I do understand that some folks simply see a person spraying in water and have a bit of a panic episode simply because they are not educated about herbicides. The Ravalli County weed District has trained and educated personal that are very familiar with these products and are trained in using them. We follow all county, state, and federal laws when applying any products. I hope this will ease a few people's minds about our activities.

On a further note:

I would suggest that the Daily Ditch board meet about their noxious weed policy and develop a plan of how they will address the weed issues along the ditch banks. Unfortunately herbicide will need to be used to reduce the weeds because of the type of weeds present. And in order to have a plan that will meet the management program of this county, a comprehensive program should be made. If a complaint comes into the weed office pertaining to noxious weeds on Daly Ditches you will be required to develop a plan of action and begin treatments per the state noxious weed law. I would be very happy to help in developing that plan and I may even be able to assist in some grant funding to help with the expenses of treatment. Please let me know of how I can help and please let me know if you have any further questions.

Kellieann

*Kellieann Morris ~ Ravalli County Weed District Coordinator*  
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**From:** Jeff Burrows <jburrows@rc.mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 9:32 AM  
**To:** Kellieann Morris <kmorris@rc.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Daly Ditches Hazard

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Rhonda King - Daly Ditches <[Rhonda@dalyditches.com](mailto:Rhonda@dalyditches.com)>  
**Date:** June 22, 2022 at 11:45:14 AM MDT  
**To:** Chris Taggart <[CTaggart@rc.mt.gov](mailto:CTaggart@rc.mt.gov)>, Dan Huls <[dhuls@rc.mt.gov](mailto:dhuls@rc.mt.gov)>, Jeff Burrows <[jburrows@rc.mt.gov](mailto:jburrows@rc.mt.gov)>, Greg Chilcott <[gchilcott@rc.mt.gov](mailto:gchilcott@rc.mt.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Daly Ditches Hazard

I just got a report that someone was possibly spraying herbicides along the main Republican Canal on your property on Kurtz Ln. Daly Ditches has a no herbicides policy and landowners are concerned about their gardens. Can someone please look into this and let me know, so I can address the phone calls.

Thank you - Rhonda



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