

## **Weed Division Tasks**

The Weed Division is divided into three different types of work. They are as follows:

### **Landowner Education and Compliance**

Two to four seasonal staff members are hired each spring to work with landowners throughout the summer. Their responsibilities include:

- Working with landowners to identify noxious weeds and other vegetation
- Develop management plans with integrated pest management techniques
- Offer cost-share money for chemical treatments of noxious weeds
- Assist landowner with sprayer calibration
- Make suggestions on seed mixes when asked
- Enforcement of the Weld County Code, Chapter 15 in conjunction with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. These laws require certain noxious weeds to be eradicated or controlled.

### **Roadside Spraying Program**

The roadside spraying operation utilizes three specialized spray trucks designed for roadside spraying in the County's right-of-way. A fourth truck is used for bare-ground applications. There is also two trucks set-up for hand-gun work only.

Weld County is divided into 3 regions and each truck is assigned an area. When the trucks are spraying the operators are only targeting specific noxious weeds. These trucks travel 10 to 12 mph when they are in operation.

Some species are not on our targeted list, these include: sunflower, cocklebur, punturevine, kochia and Russian thistle; unless these species pose a visibility safety issue. Most roads are covered twice in a season.

The typical season starts in April and ends in October.

### **Roadside Mowing Program**

The roadside mowing focuses on the paved roadsides. Each paved road is mowed twice a year. The mowing season runs from late May through October.

Annually, the three mowing tractors cover approximately 2900 lane miles in Weld County.