

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF USBORNE NO. 310
Dust Control Policy (UPDATED – June 10, 2020)

PRINCIPLES:

The municipality strives to have accountability and good working relationships with ratepayers. This includes working together to promote fairness and consistency where applicable.

PURPOSE:

This Policy is intended to:

- provide a clear understanding of dust control procedures within the RM;
- protect the public interest;

DUST CONTROL – HAUL ROUTES

The municipality will apply the amounts specified below to occupied yardsites on haul routes at no cost to the ratepayer:

- Bloomfield Road – 500 meters
- South Drake Grid (761) – 250 meters
- Lockwood Grid – 250 meters
- Rg Road 2245 – 250 meters

- Any other requests above this must be in accordance with the section below; all costs are chargeable to the applicable ratepayer.

DUST CONTROL – PRIVATE YARDSITES:

- It is solely the responsibility of the ratepayer to notify the RM annually if they require dust control – the RM does not accept responsibility for lack of communication.
- The municipality will publish an ad in the local paper with a deadline to be put on the list for private dust control. All interested ratepayers must be in contact with the office prior to the deadline to receive dust control, **no exceptions**. Reminders/follow ups will NOT be initiated by the RM if a ratepayer does not get themselves on the list.
- Dust control will be applied at a rate with reference to previous records and at the discretion of the RM foreman, unless otherwise requested.
- The municipality will provide quotes upon request; however, the municipality will not be held responsible if actual billing does not fall within said quote.
- If a ratepayer receives dust control, the RM will NOT blade the area until freeze up.

DUST CONTROL – OUTSIDE OF RM 310:

- The RM will only apply dust control to roads within and maintained by the municipality. This includes the Hamlets of Lockwood & Guernsey, who are governed by the RM.

Dust Control Notice

Living in rural Saskatchewan means living with dust – especially in our current drought! As you are all aware, the RM offers dust control every spring to assist with this issue; however, the RM has received an influx of complaints recently regarding the dust control program. This notice serves to provide details of the program, and outline recent discussions of Council. Please see the reverse side for current policy, and note that **all applications and billings are executed in conjunction with this policy**. Council would especially like to remind all ratepayers that the dust control program is not a necessary/essential service that the RM is required to provide – it is simply a courtesy program that is offered to our ratepayers. As it stands currently, due to the amount & nature of complaints we have received, the program is in jeopardy.

Location Complaints

The RM will not apply dust control to roads or sites that are not within RM jurisdiction (ie: Town of Lanigan, Village of Drake, RM of Wolverine, etc.). Dust control is available to ratepayers and RM of Osborne roads only – this includes the Hamlets of Lockwood & Guernsey that are governed by the RM.

Staking – the RM stakes the areas ahead of time, following previous applications or ratepayer requests. If stakes are moved without the RM's consent, dust control will not be applied.

Billing Complaints

Currently, ratepayers are not billed for area prep (staking, grading, employee time, etc) – if the program continues, these costs may be passed on to recipients.

Ratepayers who are located on haul routes are not required to pay, simply because they are on designated haul routes – we all know gravel & agriculture-based hauls are a big part of what our RM is about! The RM cannot afford to supply dust control to all ratepayers free of charge.

Effectiveness/Blading Complaints

Different soil types require different application rates. The RM cannot be held accountable if your applicable soil type does not respond to your chosen rate, to your liking.

NEW for 2020: If ratepayers choose to purchase dust control, the RM will NOT blade the area until freeze up, unless agreed upon by the RM foreman & applicable ratepayer due to safety concerns.

Some items to note re: effectiveness:

- *Higher application rate = more effectiveness!*
- *The more frequently you apply dust control (ie: annually), the better it will work.*
- *Watering dust control area will increase effectiveness & longevity*

Once again, this program is not something that the RM is required to provide to ratepayers, and is simply done as a courtesy. It is our hope that this notice will bring further understanding of the program, it's policy, and the issues we are facing.