

MANITOWOC COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



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2025 Invasive Species Spraying

Invasive species within the road right-of-way and adjacent properties can pose significant health risks to highway workers, utility workers, emergency responders, and anyone else utilizing the right-of-way. In the coming months, you may notice our crews spraying these areas to help control and eradicate Wild Parsnip and other harmful invasive weed species. Also, this is a plant growth regulator that slows the grass growth to improve vision. Our staff has been trained and certified in applying EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) certified herbicides. These herbicides are plant specific and will not hurt birds, bees, butterflies and other animals/insects that live in the ROW. This means grasses, milkweed and other native plants will flourish helping out our wildlife and pollinators. Our intention is to spray all County roads 15'-25' from the shoulder.

For more information, please see our website:

Herbicide formula to be used:

Herbicide	EPA Reg #	Active Ingredient	Application Rate
TerraVue	62719-738	Aminopyralid-Potassium and Florpyrauxifen-benzyl	2.5 Oz/Acre
Plateau	241-365	Imazapic	4 Oz/Acre
Liberate	Exempt	(Surfactant/drift control)	16 oz/Ac



Wild Parsnip is a Restricted Invasive Plant in Wisconsin that has been spreading along roadsides, right-of-ways, prairie and pastures. Contact with the sap to skin in the presence of sunlight can cause blisters and discoloration of the skin (phytophotodermatitis). Care should be taken when in areas of this plant. This plant flowers in late spring to early summer. Manitowoc County is working on controlling this plant and others along its county roads. We are using a PGR (plant growth regulator) to suppress the grass along with a herbicide to control the invasive plants. This allows us to eliminate a mowing, and controlling our invasives for our county roads. This application does not cause injury to milkweed, supporting monarch butterfly habitat. We will be treating our county roads starting in May.