

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## ***ATTENTION PET OWNERS:***

### ***WEED CONTROL PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN MAPLE GROVE PARK***

The Manitoba Floodway Authority will be implementing a Riparian Area Tree Planting program in Maple Grove Park in late September that will result in the planting of approximately 2310 trees and 4640 shrubs along the banks of the Red River in Maple Grove Park.

Prior to the planting of any trees or shrubs, the planting plots will be sprayed with the pesticide known as Roundup for weed control. The application of roundup is required to kill the existing grass/weed vegetation where the trees and shrubs are to be planted, allowing the newly planted trees and shrubs time to establish roots and start growing in place without having to compete for moisture and nutrients. The planting at Maple Grove will be a continuous strip of trees and shrubs along the banks of the Red River (see attached photo).

**The public is advised that the pesticide being applied may be harmful to dogs if it is ingested in significant amounts. During the application period please ensure dogs are on a leash when using the riverbank trail. Notification of any pesticide application in the park will be provided 48 hours prior to the actual application and will be posted at the dog park and along the riverbank pathway. In addition, all areas that will be sprayed will be marked using pylons and cordoned off with tape to ensure that dog owners know where the pesticide has been applied.**

The plantings at Maple Grove Park are part of the a Riparian Area Tree Planting Initiative that is part of Fish Habitat Compensation Program required by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as part of the environmental licensing process for the Red River Floodway Expansion Project. The initiative will offset the impact on fish habitat related to the floodway project and will result in approximately 61,000 square meters of plantings, or the planting of approximately 10,000 trees and 20,000 shrubs, at five sites over the next year.

Riparian areas or zones are the areas of vegetation directly separating land from water and immediately adjacent land that is frequently flooded. Vegetation in riparian areas typically consists of plants that either are emergent aquatic plants, or herbs, trees and shrubs that thrive in close proximity to water. Riparian ecosystems are vital to the health of all other aquatic ecosystems as they filter out pollutants from land runoff, prevent erosion, and provide shelter and food for many aquatic animals. In particular, once established, the vegetation will create a canopy and provide benefits to fish and fish habitat by regulating water temperatures and improving food supply for fish within the waterway.

**For more information, please contact:**

The Manitoba Floodway Authority  
(204) 945-4900