

Does certified weed-free gravel materials cost more than regular materials?

None of the states involved in the Certified Weed-Free Program, including Nevada, control the price of construction materials. Demand for the product determines the price. If supplies are low, the price of certified materials may rise. Currently, education of the negative impacts of noxious weeds in Nevada is rising. NDOA hopes that as the program progresses the demand for weed-free products will rise.

Is it required to use certified weed-free gravel on all road construction?

As of right now it is not required to use certified weed-free gravel on all road construction in Nevada, however, NDOA is working with the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to require weed-free materials. Currently, this is a voluntary program that the Nevada Department of Agriculture and NAWMA are offering to pits as a chance to join in a growing market for their product.

What other products can be certified weed-free?

There are many forage products that can be certified weed-free. Currently, Nevada has multiple growers that have certified forage materials including grass hay, alfalfa hay, mixed hay, forage pellets, and straw or grain hay. The gravel pit certification program is new to Nevada and as the need arises other programs will be developed.



For more information please contact:

Nevada Department of Agriculture
405 S. 21st St.
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 353-3601

USDA Forest Service
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
1200 Franklin Way
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 991-6444

Helpful Websites:

Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDOA)
Weed Free Certification Program
http://agri.nv.gov/nwac/PLANT_WeedFreeHay.htm

NDOA Noxious Weed List
http://agri.nv.gov/nwac/PLANT_No WeedList.htm

A List of Certified Producers in Nevada
http://agri.nv.gov/nwac/PLANT_WFHProducers.htm

North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA)
<http://www.nawma.org/>

NAWMA Noxious Weeds List
http://www.nawma.org/documents/Weed%20Free%20Forage/WFF_Standards.html

Nevada Noxious Weed Laws
http://agri.nv.gov/nwac/PLANT_No Weed_Law.htm

NAWMA Gravel Pit Certification Standards
<http://www.nawma.org/WFF/Gravelpit%20inspect%20stds.pdf>



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NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
PLANT INDUSTRY DIVISION

Nevada's Weed-Seed Free Gravel

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Demand is growing for the use of certified weed-free gravel to help limit the spread of noxious weeds in Nevada and throughout the country.

Nevada's Weed-Free Gravel Certification Program complies with the national standards set by the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA).

Why use certified weed-free material?



Infestation of the noxious weed species Hoary Cress near a roadside.

By using certified weed-free material on new construction projects it helps you and your neighbors by ensuring that no noxious weeds are introduced to a new area. Nevada law states that all landowners are required to remove noxious weeds from their properties at their own expense. By using weed-free material, the chances of noxious weeds spreading along our roadways decreases. Noxious weeds spread the most due to motor vehicles and new construction at various sites. Using weed-free material prevents this spread of noxious weeds and keeps our land healthy.

What is certified weed-free gravel?

It is gravel, sand, rock or top soil that has been mined and provided from a pit that is free of any viable plants of any of the weed species listed on either Nevada's or the Federal Noxious Weed Lists. These pits were visually inspected to ensure compliance with the Nevada Department of Agriculture's (NDOA) and NAWMA's standards.

What can be certified within a pit?

Certifiable materials include:

- Sand
- Gravel
- Rock
- Top Soil

How do I get a pit certified?

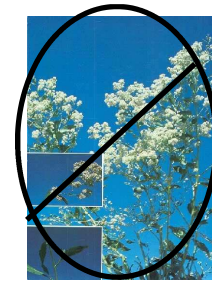
Contact the Nevada Department of Agriculture at (775) 353-3670. The first inspection can take place during the warm seasons. If the pit is clean after the first inspection then the pit must be inspected again as determined by the state inspector. If the pit contains some weeds that needed to be addressed, then the pit may require another inspection after 30 days to ensure no propagative parts are viable within the gravel.

Inspectors accredited by the NDOA's Plant Industry Division walk the pit before it can be certified. Inspection area includes, but is not limited to, surrounding ditches, top soil piles, gravel/sand piles, fence rows, roads, easement, rights of way, working areas, storage areas, a buffer zone surrounding the area, and the area of active mining.

The inspector will verify that:

- A) There are no noxious weeds from either Nevada's or the Federal Noxious Weeds Lists present in or around the pit.
- OR
- B) If there are weeds present, they have been treated to prevent any chance of viable seeds or reproductive plant parts from being included in or transported with the road material.

*Certified gravel/borrow material may have viable seeds from previous years. Plant seed can not be killed by registered pesticides. Certification consists of a prudent and visual inspection for that year (s) certification for this pit. Previous years may have had seed drop that can still be viable. This is a buyer beware program. However, the chances of viable seeds present in the material greatly reduce once a pit has been in the program more than one year.



Why are noxious weeds a problem?

Noxious weeds are a problem, because they have the ability to destruct and take over an area. These weeds thrive in disturbed areas, such as roadsides or at construction sites. Many of the noxious weeds species not only disrupt the native vegetation on the land, but also can be toxic and dangerous to humans and wildlife.

How do you know gravel material is certified weed-free?

After a pit is inspected the producer will receive a "Certificate of Inspection" signed by the inspector. When the material is transported, the producer is required to send a copy of the "Transit Certificate" which must have an original signature from the producer. Ask for either certificate to prove the material is certified weed-free.

What does it cost to have a pit certified weed-free?

NDOA charges fees for time and mileage as well as a flat fee for the inspection. Per diem charges may also apply, but this is rare. The NDOA realizes that this is a new program and new pits that would like to be inspected for the first time may receive a fee reduction if the pit does not pass certification standards.

