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Union Pacific Railroad Gets in the Weeds

Company set to spray for weeds in Eugene

In order to operate freight trains safely and efficiently, Union Pacific has to maintain a vegetation control program. As part of this program, Union Pacific will be working in the city limits of Eugene March 29-30.

- \* Frequently Asked Questions
- \* Your Comments or Questions?

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does Union Pacific have to spray for vegetation?

Union Pacific has to address vegetation for the safety of the public, our employees and our train operations. Federal and state regulations require that we have a vegetation control program. Controlling the growth of vegetation helps the general public because it is an important part of fire prevention. It's also important for the safety of our employees and the trains we run. Cutting and spraying vegetation ensures our employees can easily see railroad signals and it reduces stumbling hazards for railroad employees. Vegetation can also interfere with signal lines, and their root systems can hurt the stability of the track's roadbed.

Why is Union Pacific notifying local residents of the vegetation control?

Union Pacific works closely with the city of Eugene to keep local residents aware of the work that is being done. This is a voluntary notification in collaboration with the city of Eugene.

How often does Union Pacific spray for vegetation in Eugene?

Our goal is to spray the tracks once a year. We only re-spray in areas where the treatment was not effective.

What times will Union Pacific be spraying?

We start spraying early in the morning, the calmest time of the day. Daily application is done around the train's schedule.

What type of herbicide will be used?

Payload (PDF File) , SFM Extra (PDF File) and Glyphosate (PDF File) are the primary products used to treat the vegetation.