## What does the certification program provide?

- Certified forage for livestock, wildlife, and vegetation projects.
- An opportunity to move forage and mulch freely in restricted areas, intrastate, interstate, and internationally.
- A supply of certified forage and mulch.
- State/Regional wide policies and recommendations.





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# WEED FREE FORAGE And MULCH CERTIFICATION



# WEED FREE FORAGE CERTIFICATION



#### **Purpose of the Program**

There is a growing demand for the use of certified weed free forage and mulch as a preventative program to limit the spread of noxious weeds. The purpose of the certified weed free forage and mulch program is to inspect crops before harvest to verify that there are no propagative plant parts of noxious weeds. The use of certified weed free forage and mulch is intended to reduce the spread of weeds in parks and projects where forage or mulch is used.

#### **Certification Process**

An application for certification inspection must be completed no less than 10 days prior to harvest and includes: Applicant/Farm name, address, telephone, fax, and cell numbers; field location (legal description or GPS coordinates and driving directions); number of acres and crop type; bale size and estimated yield; and destination, if known.

ODAFF will notify the inspector to schedule the certification inspection.

The forage must be harvested within ten (10) days of the inspection date. Producer informs ODAFF of harvest date and bales yielded.

The producer will be charged for inspection and mileage and will be billed. Upon receipts of payment, producer will receive the Certificate of Inspection, a Transit Certificate, if necessary and the bale tags needed for that crop.

### Why is there a demand for certified hay and mulch?

- ♦ To protect natural resources.
- To prevent the introduction and continuing spread of noxious weeds.
- To protect the natural habitat for wildlife.
- To preserve the aesthetic value of our natural scenery.
- To assure the customer is buying certified forage.

**REMEMBER**, it's our land.

Let's protect it!

