

WHARTON COUNTY, TEXAS VEGETATION CONTROL AND CHEMICAL APPLICATION BID SPECIFICATIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Submit to: Commissioners' Court of Wharton County

Barbara A. Starling, County Auditor Wharton County Courthouse Annex

309 E. Milam, Suite 300 Wharton, Texas 77488

For: Wharton County Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4 and Drainage Department

Due Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in the County Auditor's Office when all bids

will be opened and publicly read. All bids will be date and time stamped. Bids received after

the specified time will not be considered.

Presentation: November 10, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. during the regular session of the Commissioners' Court in

the Courthouse Annex, 309 E. Milam, Suite 602, Wharton, Texas.

Published: Leader-Journal issue of October 8th and October 15th, 2025

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Bids will be accepted from suppliers wishing to furnish vegetation control and chemical application for calendar year 2026. Bids must be submitted on the bid form included in this package. Bids **must** be signed by principal or officer authorized to bind the bidder. All pages are to be initialed and returned. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "**Chemical Application**" on outside of envelope along with bidder's name and return address prominently displayed. This bid shall be on a unit price method as allowed under §262.028 of the Local Government Code. All material and service must conform to specifications.

All bidders must complete the "Conflict of Interest Questionnaire". The form is attached with this bid package. Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government code requires that any vendor or person conducting business or wishing to conduct business with a county complete the questionnaire. The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be turned in with your bid proposal to the Auditors office. Any questions can be directed to the Texas Ethics Commission in Austin.

Wharton County Commissioner's Court will not consider for action any contract with a business entity unless the business entity submits a Certificate of Interested Parties (Form 1295). A business entity will generate Form 1295 online AFTER notification of awarding of the bid. The Texas Ethics Commission promulgated rules to implement the law and established an online portal at: https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/1295/
The successful bidder must complete this form and submit the signed and notarized form before the contract is executed. Contract number is 102225

The Commissioners' Court will award bid for labor with chemicals supplied by the bidder.

This bid shall be in effect January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026.

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Wharton County reserves the right to award this bid to the responsible bidder who submitted the lowest and best bid or reject any and/or all bids and act in the best interest of the County.

If awarded bidder cannot supply service or product, <u>a written statement from the bidder</u> indicating the reason, must be sent to the department and the County reserves the right to spot purchase product or service.

Any changes in use of chemicals must be approved in writing by Department Supervisor prior to use. Label of chemicals used must be furnished to the Department Supervisor when requested. Bidder must furnish invoice when delivered and monthly statements to the Departments, not later than the 10^{th} day of the month covering all charges for the previous month. Wharton County will pay in a timely manner upon satisfactory delivery and acceptance by Department Supervisor.

SALES TAX – Wharton County is exempt from sales tax by law. Wharton County will furnish, upon request, sales tax exemption forms to the bidder that is awarded bid. Bidder shall bear the responsibility of any sales or use tax if any product or supply is deemed to be taxable by State.

BID CONDITIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS

- 1. Hourly rate for application of specified herbicides and number of hours or dollar amount for minimum, if any.
- 2. Bidder **must** submit a written proposal indicating the equipment and personnel to be used. The proposal shall include an equipment list.

Minimum requirements are as follows:

- 2 Man Crew
- 4 Wheel Drive Trucks (Minimum one ton)
- 500 Gallon Tank with Mechanical Agitation
- Pumps Capable of Delivering 30 GPM @ up to 1000 PSI
- 4X4 Tractor with Raven Computerized Spray System or equivalent
- 4X4 Ardco Skidder with Specialized Spray System or equivalent
- Radio or Other Communication Equipment
- 3. Bidder **must** submit cost of the following:

A. Polaris K. Remedy B. Garlon #A L. Escort C. Roundup Pro M. Plateau D. Glyphosate N. Outrider E. 2-4 D O. Method F. 90% Non-Ionic Surfactant P. Grazon Next HL G. Drift Control Q. Induce H. MSO R. Impel I. DYNE-AMIC S. Milestone J. Trycera T. Esplanade

- 4. Material shall be ordered in quantities as determined by the Contractor and the Department Supervisor.
- 5. Department Supervisor will give 24 hours minimum notice prior to required service. Upon initial contact, awarded bidder shall advise, at that time, if required schedule can be met. Cooperation and coordination between County and bidder is essential to make contract work. Department Supervisor has the right to stop service at any time due to weather or other conditions.
- 6. Bidder shall have the right to bid any part of bid for all of Wharton County. Bidder must be able to furnish bid items under terms of these specifications.
- 7. Quality control will be visual inspection at job site by Department Supervisor. Department Supervisor shall have right to stop service.
- 8. The following **must** be supplied with this proposal:
 - Photocopy of current State of Texas Department of Agriculture Commercial Pesticide Applicator License
 - Executed Indemnification/Hold Harmless Agreement
 - Photocopy of recorded assumed name affidavit (d/b/a), if proprietorship or partnership
 - Certificate of articles of incorporation, if corporation

9. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:

The awarded bidder **must** furnish certificates of insurance or other acceptable evidence from a reputable insurance company or companies acceptable to the County, licensed to write insurance in the State of Texas, showing the contractor is covered by insurance with the minimum limits of liability:

a. General Public Liability, including Product Liability Insurance as follows: \$250,000 for injuries to one person, \$500,000 for injuries to all persons in a single occurrence \$100,000 for property damage.

Certificate of Liability Insurance evidencing at least \$1,000,000 in liability coverage, including pollution coverage and vehicles, and a **chemical application endorsement.**

The policy shall be on the commercial general liability form and shall include coverage for acts of independent contractors.

- b. Statutory Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Insurance with a **Waiver of Subrogation in favor of the County,** evidencing at least \$500,000 in coverage per accident and each employee. In the event any work is sublet, the contractor shall require each subcontractor similarly to provide the same coverage and shall acquire evidence of such coverage of the subcontractor.
- c. Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance on all vehicles used in connection with the contract, whether owned, non-owned or hired as follows:
 - \$250,000 for injuries to one person, \$500,000 for injuries to all persons in a single occurrence
 - \$100,000 for property damage or \$600,000 combined single limit

Certificates of insurance with the County listed as an additional insured under each policy **must** be provided upon the award of bid.

10. Contractor must have a minimum of five (5) years' experience applying restricted use and non-restricted use herbicides.

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Application Bid Form.docx	

11. Notify landowners of dates for spraying on their property.

Point of Contact and Mailing Addresses:

Rusty Graves, Drainage Department Supervisor 315 E. Milam Ste. 101 Wharton, Texas 77488	(979) 532-9470
Richard Zahn, Commissioner Precinct #1 3738 FM 3012 Wharton, Texas 77488	(979) 532-1991
Bud Graves, Commissioner Precinct #2 P.O. Box 399 East Bernard, Texas 77435	(979) 335-7541
Steven Goetsch, Commissioner Precinct #3 1271 CR 358 El Campo, Texas 77437	(979) 543-0091
Doug Mathews, Commissioner Precinct #4 P.O. Box 895 El Campo, Texas 77437	(979) 543-3561

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I have read th	e bid specifications a	nd shall carry out the	requirements of the bid.	
This bid subn	nitted by:			
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FORM CIQ CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE For vendor doing business with local governmental entity OFFICE USE ONLY This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session. This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who Date Received has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a). By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code. A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor. 1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity. Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.) Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed. Name of Officer Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary. A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor? Yes No B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity? Yes Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more. 6 Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1). 7 Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity Date

Form provided by Texas Ethics Commission

www.ethics.state.tx.us

Revised 11/30/2015

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/ Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

<u>Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a)</u>: "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

- (a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:
 - (2) the vendor:
 - (A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that
 - (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;
 - (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;
 - (B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:
 - (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
 - (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

- (a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:
 - has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);
 - (2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or
 - (3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.
- (a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:
 - (1) the date that the vendor:
 - (A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or
 - (B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or
 - (2) the date the vendor becomes aware:
 - (A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);
 - (B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or
 - (C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

Form provided by Texas Ethics Commission

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Revised 11/30/2015

(To be Completed by Awarded Vendor)

CERTIFICATE OF INTE	RESTED PARTIES		FORM 1295
Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if the Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6	ere are interested parties. if there are no interested parties.		OFFICEUSEONLY
 Name of business entity filing form, a entity's place of business. 	and the city, state and country of the bu	siness	usfrile
 Name of governmental entity or state which the form is being filed. 	e agency that is a party to the contract	for	xt. USI
3 Provide the identification number us and provide a description of the serv	ed by the governmental entity or state : ices, goods, or other property to be pro	egency to track	or identify the contract, se contract.
Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of Controlli	Interest (check applicable)
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5 Check only if there is No Interest	ed Party.		
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	Signature of authorized	agent of contrac (Declarant)	ting business entity
ADD	ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECI	ESSARY	
orm provided by Texas Ethics Commission	www.ethics.state.tx.us		Revised 12/22/2017

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