

Policy Name: Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
Section: 3000 Operational: 3500 Parks
Policy Number: 0000

Purpose: To develop and maintain park facilities in manner appropriate to intended use while protecting health and safety of humans, pets and wildlife.

Reference: None applicable

Policy:

The Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District values, supports, and encourages an approach to park operations and maintenance that is environmentally sound and sustainable.

Goal

The Goal of the District is to develop and maintain the buildings, structures, and active and passive use areas owned and/or managed by the District in a condition appropriate to each facility's intended use while protecting the health and safety of humans, pets, and wildlife in the parks. Therefore the District promotes building and landscape pest management practices that preserve the District's buildings and landscape assets in an environmentally sensitive manner that will also protect the health and safety of the public and District employees.

Definition

In order to pursue these goals, the District adopts Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as both a philosophical and operational principle. IPM is an approach to pest control (including control of insects, rodents, vegetation, plant pathogens, and other pests) that utilizes regular monitoring to determine if and when treatments are needed and employs physical, mechanical, cultural, biological, and least-toxic chemical strategies to keep pest numbers low enough to prevent intolerable damage or annoyance. The focus of the IPM program is long-term, sustainable prevention or suppression of pest problems.

Implementation

IPM focuses on pest prevention as the primary tool for landscaping, building maintenance, and dealing with all other pest management issues on District property. When problems with pests occur, mechanical, physical, or biological methods are the preferred methods of control. Pesticide usage will be considered only when the District has determined that other methods have proven ineffective, infeasible, or unavailable. The District's goal is to eliminate or avoid the use of pesticide products that pose a threat either to the environment or to human health, including chemicals that cause cancer, damage the nervous systems, disrupt endocrine function, or cause reproductive or developmental harm in humans. Guidelines for evaluating pesticides are in **Appendix A**.

When pesticides are used, products that are the most effective and cause the least impact (Least Toxic) to human health and the environment may be used in the course of normal operations without specific approval from the District's Board of Commissioners (Board). Examples of approved Least Toxic products are listed in **Appendix B**. When a situation exists in which there is a serious threat to public health or safety, structures, or the environment and the District has determined Least Toxic products to be ineffective or unavailable, the Board, in open public session, may approve the use of higher toxicity products (i.e. products that do not meet the guidelines of **Appendix A**). In the event of an imminent threat or emergency, the Park Director (Director) may approve use of higher toxicity products without prior Board approval. However, the Director shall make a reasonable effort to notify the Board prior to or immediately after such usage.

In order to help implement IPM, the District will:

- Provide training for its Park Services Division staff on proper methods of IPM.
- Ensure that pesticides and products containing pesticides are only applied by or under the supervision of properly licensed personnel.
- Follow all federal, state, and local regulations related to pesticide usage, including posting, notification, and record keeping.
- Educate all other staff about IPM.
- Create and present to the Board in open public session an annual report that includes
- IPM practices and pesticide use for the prior year, and goals for the coming year.

Organic Agricultural Production

In areas the District has designated or manages for the production of organically certified food crops, no chemical products shall be used by any party without the District's first determining that the use of such products is allowed by the guidelines established by a recognized organic produce certification authority.

Appendix A: Pesticide Evaluation Guidelines

The goal of the district is not to use any pesticide products with any active ingredients or other known ingredients that meet one or more of the following:

- A. Acutely toxic to humans.
Classified as Toxicity Category I or II by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
Danger or Warning will be listed on the label.
- B. Acutely toxic to aquatic insects, fish, aquatic and semi-aquatic plants, wildlife, or domestic animals.
The Environmental Hazards Section of the label will state toxic, highly toxic, or extremely toxic; or
The USEPA Office of Pesticide Programs Reregistration Eligibility Decisions (REDs, IREDs, and TREDs) will state that the level of concern is exceeded.
- C. May cause cancer in humans.
Classified as a known, likely, probable or possible carcinogen by the USEPA; or
Classified as a known, likely, probable or possible carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC); or
Classified as known or reasonably anticipated to be human carcinogen by National Toxicology Program; or
Listed by State of California as a known carcinogen.
- D. Nervous system toxicant in humans.
Cholinesterase inhibitor or neurotoxic by mode of action; or
Listed as neurotoxic in USEPA Toxics Release Inventory.
- E. Reproductive or developmental toxicant in humans.
Classified as known or reasonably anticipated to be a reproductive or developmental toxicant by National Toxicology Program; or
Listed by State of California as a reproductive or developmental toxicant.
- F. Disrupts hormonal systems.
Listed by Illinois EPA as a known, probable, or suspected endocrine disruptor.
- G. Persists in the environment.
Average soil half-life of 100 days or greater as listed by Agricultural Research Service; or
Average soil half-life of 100 days or greater as listed by Oregon State University Extension Pesticide Properties Database
- H. High or very high mobility in soils.
Groundwater Ubiquity Score of 3.0 or as listed by Oregon State University Extension Pesticide Properties Database; or
The Environmental Hazards Section of the label warns of leach ability or detections in surface water or groundwater.

Appendix B: Examples of Least Toxic products

- Boric acid and disodium oocoborate tetrahydrate.
- Products containing acetic or citric acid as their primary active ingredients.
- Diatomaceous earth.
- Microbe-based insecticides.
- Botanical insecticides that contain only active ingredients found on the EPA 25(b) list.
- Biological controls such as parasites and predators approved for use in Washington State.
- Corn gluten.
- Potassium soaps of fatty acids.
- Iron phosphate.
- Sulfur.
- Neem oil.
- Horticultural oils.

Appendices may be amended periodically as new information becomes available.