

Policy # 49 – Integrated Pest Management Policy (IPM)

Purpose: To establish best management practices for controlling pests that are harmful to the health, function or aesthetic value of park landscapes in an efficient, effective, and environmentally responsible manner, while paying careful attention to public safety.

Policy Statement:

IPM is a coordinated decision-making and action process that uses the most appropriate pest control methods and strategies in an environmentally and economically sound manner to meet pest management objectives. The elements of integrated pest management include: (a) preventing pest problems; (b) monitoring for the presence of pests and pest damage; (c) establishing action thresholds to determine when control measures and treatment strategies shall be implemented; (d) apply control measures using biological, cultural, mechanical and pesticidal control methods based on ecological impact, feasibility and cost effectiveness; and (e) evaluating the effects and efficacy of pest treatments.

Implementation:

1. City Policy

- A. Under this IPM policy, the City commits to implementing best management practices to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides whenever feasible through the basic IPM principles as described below.
 - 1) Prevention – The first line of pest control is through policy implementation and thoughtful planning.
 - 2) Action Thresholds – The tolerance threshold level is the point when pest populations or environmental conditions indicate when control actions are to be taken.
 - 3) Identification and Monitoring – Identify pests and monitor them so the appropriate control decisions can be made in conjunction with action thresholds.
 - 4) Control Measure – Pest treatment strategies implemented to control pests through cultural, physical, biological ~~or chemical control~~ measures with a minimum impact on health, safety, the environment and non-target organisms.

- 5) Evaluate the effects and efficacy of control measures. After a control method is implemented, the efficacy of the treatment is evaluated. Based on this evaluation, methods will be modified in an effort to continually improve outcomes and refine best management practices.

2. Designation of IPM Coordinator

The City of Malibu shall designate the Parks Recreation Director to serve as the IPM Coordinator to oversee implementation of this policy. This person will be the primary contact for all matters related to pest control for the city and act as a liaison between the city departments and pest management professionals. The IPM Coordinator will serve as a contact for the public seeking information about pesticide use or other pest management practices. The IPM Coordinator will also be responsible for the developing and maintaining an IPM Operations Manual for the City.

Date Adopted: October 28, 2013

City of Malibu

Integrated Pest Management Program

Introduction

The purpose of the IPM Program (IPM) is to establish and implement best management practices for controlling pests that are harmful to the health, function or aesthetic value of park landscapes in an efficient, effective, and environmentally responsible manner.

IPM is a coordinated decision-making and action process that uses the most appropriate pest control methods and strategies in an environmentally and economically sound manner to meet pest management objectives.

Under the IPM policy, the City commits to implementing best management practices to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides whenever feasible through the basic IPM program principles as described below.

- 6) Prevention – The first line of pest control is through policy implementation and thoughtful planning.
- 7) Action Thresholds – The tolerance threshold level is the point when pest populations or environmental conditions indicate when control actions are to be taken.
- 8) Identification and Monitoring – Identify pests and monitor them so the appropriate control decisions can be made in conjunction with action thresholds.
- 9) Control Measure – Pest treatment strategies implemented to control pests through cultural, physical, biological ~~or chemical control~~ measures with a minimum impact on health, safety, the environment and non-target organisms.
- 10) Evaluate the effects and efficacy of control measures. After a control method is implemented, the efficacy of the treatment is evaluated. Based on this evaluation, methods will be modified in an effort to continually improve outcomes and refine best management practices.

Integrated Pest Management Methodology

The IPM is a pest management strategy that focuses on long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems through a combination of integrated techniques such as policy implementation, planning, monitoring for pest presence and establishing treatment threshold levels, improving sanitation, and employing mechanical and physical controls. Pesticides that pose the least possible hazard and are effective in a

manner that minimizes risks to people, property, and environment, are used only after careful monitoring indicates they are necessary.

Methodology

- 1) IPM Policy – Establish best management practices to control pests that are environmentally sensitive, effective and financially feasible.
- 2) Design and Plant Selection – Incorporate landscape designs and plant selections that minimize pest management issues.
- 3) Cultural Practices – Maintain cultural practices that establish healthy landscapes and assist in maintaining their resistance to pest problems.
- 4) Physical Controls – Employ mechanical and physical methods to manage pests.
- 5) Biological Controls – Where applicable, introduce natural predator of pest as biological control and minimize disruption of natural pest controls that may be present.
- 6) ~~Chemical Controls – Use of the least toxic naturally and synthetically derived pesticides available when non-chemical alternatives prove to be ineffective or cost prohibitive.~~

Selection Criteria for Pest Management Method

In selecting a pest management method all personnel shall consider the following factors and any additional factors relevant to the selection.

- 1) Nature of the site
 - Susceptibility to erosion and potential soil movement from water runoff
 - Intended use and function of the landscape
 - Feasibility of the control method, site location and scope of the problem
 - Relative importance and public expectation of the site and plantings
 - Site conditions such as soil type, grade, drainage patterns, and presence of surface water
- 2) Possible health and safety effects – Consider both short and long-term toxicological properties and any other related potential health effects of the materials or methods, both to the applicator and the public
 - Equipment operation safety issues for both the operator and the public
 - Worker safety and worker injury issues involved with carrying out the method

- 3) Possible environmental effects – Consider both acute and chronic toxicity and related potential effects of the material or method to non-target organisms including mammals, birds, amphibians, fish, invertebrates and other organisms
 - Environmental effects from potential bioaccumulation
 - Potential impacts to non-target plants and other organisms from materials or methods
 - Potential impacts to federally listed threatened or endangered species
 - Possible introduction or establishment of invasive plants
- 4) Costs – Short and Long Term Financial Impacts
 - Costs of the material or method
 - Application and labor costs
 - Length and quality of pest control
 - Feasibility of using a particular method or product
- 5) Characteristics of the Product
 - Target pests and target sites of the product being used
 - Possible residual effect, decomposition pathways, rates, and breakdown products
 - Volatility and flammability
 - Product formulation and package size
 - Leachability, solubility, and surface and soil bonding characteristics of the product
 - Ease of cleaning equipment after use
 - Positive and negative synergistic effects of pesticide combinations
- 6) Special Considerations
 - Application equipment availability
 - Method of delivery
 - Weather conditions
 - Previous pesticide applications to the site and the interval between treatments
 - Possible development of pest resistance to a particular management method or material
 - For natural area invasive plant removal, the presence of nesting birds in area to be treated

Designation of IPM Coordinator

The Parks Recreation Director shall serve as the IPM Coordinator responsible for oversight and implementation of the IPM Program. This person will be the primary contact for all matters related to pest control for the city and act as a liaison between the city departments and pest management professionals. The IPM Coordinator will be the primary contact for the public seeking information about pesticide use or other pest

management practices. The IPM Coordinator will also be responsible for the developing and maintaining an IPM Operations Manual for the City.

Responsibilities of IPM Coordinator

- 1) Serve as the primary contact for pest control on city property for all city staff and officials; organize IPM trainings for city staff as needed;
- 2) Maintain written records of cultural practices, mechanical control, prevention strategies and other non-toxic pest control activities ~~as well as pesticide use, including requests for Limited Use Exceptions;~~
- 3) Develop and maintain an Integrated Pest Management Operations Manual including standardized documentation sheets for use in tracking pest populations, pest control actions and effectiveness reports.
- 4) Work with city staff and contractors to maintain and update those sheets;
- 5) ~~Develop and maintain a list of pesticides that may be used by the City, make it available to the public on the city website, and update it annually;~~
- 6) ~~Create standardized signage for use in public notification. Signage will include date of application, the name and type of product used, the signal word, the active ingredient(s) and a contact phone number where the public may call to obtain information or the website address here the public can access the information on the pesticide application;~~
- 7) Provide information to the public on pest control and IPM on the Parks Department's webpage and update it regularly, ~~including the list of allowed pesticides and their active ingredients and inert ingredients, advance posting of pending pesticide applications by location,~~ links to this IPM policy, and contact information for the IPM Coordinator;
- 8) Evaluate the IPM Program on a regular basis;
- 9) Ensure that pest management practices carried out by city staff and contractors are consistent with the IPM Policy;
- 10) The IPM Coordinator shall work with City staff or contractors to regularly monitor city property for pests.

Pest Management Planning

Assessment of Condition or Need

The IPM Coordinator and other City staff or contractors shall set action thresholds specific to the types of properties and pests identified, work to prevent pests, evaluate and document management of City properties.

Guidelines for Pest Treatment

If it is determined that treatment is needed, the following criteria hierarchy is used in determining the appropriate strategy:

- 1) Least disruptive of natural controls;

- 2) Least hazardous to human health;
- 3) Least toxic to non-target organisms;
- 4) Protective of wildlife and the native habitat
- 5) Least damaging to the ocean, streams and the natural environment;
- 6) Cultural, biological and mechanical solutions have been considered and evaluated;
- 7) Prior treatments used on site to control the pest and an evaluation of the success of that approach;

Contracts, Notification and Recordkeeping

Contracts

All contractors who manage pests on city owned property shall be required to adhere to the guidelines established in the city's IPM policy and pest management plan. The IPM Coordinator shall develop contracts that reflect this policy and selection of contractors will target those who can and will comply with this IPM policy.

Notification

~~The City shall provide public notification (as required) of use of pesticides in the following manner:~~

- ~~1) Signs of a standard design and 8.5 inches x 11 inches in size, easily recognized by the public and workers, shall be posted at regular public access points to the targeted area according to product requirements in advance of application and remain in place per product label instructions after application.~~
- ~~2) Signage shall also comply with any applicable State/Federal law and product label instructions.~~
- ~~3) Signs shall contain:~~
 - ~~• Trade name, active and inert ingredients of the pesticide product;~~
 - ~~• Target pest;~~
 - ~~• Date of posting;~~
 - ~~• Dates of anticipated pesticide use and date of actual pesticide use;~~
 - ~~• Signal word (keep of reach of children, caution, warning, and danger) indicating the toxicity category of the pesticide product;~~
 - ~~• Date for re-entry of staff and the public to the treated area, if applicable;~~
 - ~~• Name and contact number for the IPM Coordinator.~~

Recordkeeping and Reporting

The IPM Coordinator shall keep written records, available to the public, of all pest management activities, including ~~any commercial pesticide applications, restricted pesticide applications and~~ non-pesticide methods, including no-action, used to control or prevent pests for at least two years.

Community Outreach and Education

City Website

- 1) IPM Policy
- 2) List of pesticides used by the City
- 3) Product label for listed pesticides
- 4) References for pesticide use and disposal
- 5) Listing of community based environmental workshops

City Sponsored Workshops

Periodically the City will offer public workshops to demonstrate integrated pest management techniques that can be implemented to safely use, reduce or eliminate pesticides in managing residential landscape areas.