



INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICIES

FOR THE

CITY OF UKIAH

Revised May 7, 2003

CITY OF UKIAH

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

Purpose

To provide procedural guidelines for the management of various pest species in areas maintained by the City of Ukiah Parks Department.

Definition

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a pest management strategy that focuses on long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems with minimum impact on human health, the environment and non-target organisms. These strategies require the selection, integration and implementation of various pest control techniques considering the various economic, ecological and sociological consequences.

Policy Goals

It is the policy goal of the City of Ukiah, that these policies and practices concerning pest management remain active and ever changing based upon pest industry standards, community input, application limitations and staff recommendations. The City of Ukiah's general goals regarding our IPM program should involve the following:

- a. Provide training on a regular basis regarding IPM practices and techniques for all departments engaged in pest application use.
- b. Reduce pesticide use when appropriate, given the limitations of organic or manual eradication procedures.
- c. Establish and maintain pesticide use reports and record keeping to enhance employee training, community awareness and public safety.
- d. Continue City department inventory to determine what pest practices are being used and how to best coordinate safety programs for our employees.

Procedures

The following procedures for maintenance and application of pesticides shall apply to all Departments within the City of Ukiah .

- a. All departments that are involved with the IPM plan should establish a record-keeping system.
- b. The city will be responsible for providing training to appropriate personnel on how to recognize pests and how to cope with pest infestations.
- c. No pest application procedures can take place unless, the city employee applying the pest measures receives prior authorization from his or her Supervisor coordinating the pest eradication program in their division or department. Any

use of chemical controls must be justified and approved in accordance with these policies and practices.

- d. When applying herbicides in a park the subject area perimeter shall also be posted 24 hours in advance and postings shall remain for 24 hours after the spray application has been completed. The use and safety requirements associated with any chemical pesticide shall be in compliance with all state and federal regulations.
- e. Pesticides shall only be applied by certified applicators who have been trained in the application process, in accordance with the manufactures MSDS. Supervisors shall be responsible for providing safety training on the application of all pesticides used by the City of Ukiah.
- f. Records of all chemical applications shall be kept by each department for a period of two years and in conformance with MSDS requirements. All records shall be made available to the public and employees on a regular basis when requested.
- g. Mechanical means of weed abatement including use of discs, weed mowers, string trimmers, hoes, and hand pulling shall be used where appropriate

Cultural and Biological Activities

The City of Ukiah shall seek every opportunity to control weeds and minimize use of chemical herbicides through the following cultural and biological alternative methods:

- a. Providing conditions conducive to healthy plant growth.
- b. Modification of the environment to disrupt the pest cycle such as in alteration of irrigation times, frequency, amount and adjustments to mowing heights of turf.
- c. Provide conditions that allow for increase in populations of beneficial organisms.
- d. Use of “biological” or non-chemical pesticides.
- e. Selection of plant materials suited to the site.
- f. Selection of resistant plant materials.
- g. Systematic removal of problem plants and replacement with appropriate plant species.

Planning and Design Activities

During the process of acquiring open space, or other areas for city facilities, staff will work diligently on landscape planning and design in order to limit pest habitats. Planning and design may involve: Suitable landscaping to prevent certain pests, rodents or weeds from becoming part of the environment. Design decisions and recommendations on land use shall focus on strategies that minimize pest infestations. City staff will work on plant selections and landscape configurations that provide for natural resistance to pests. In example, enhancing the use of mulching, mowing, screening and hand weeding can prevent many landscape pests.

Chemical Applications

Chemical weed abatement shall be conducted under the following criteria.

- a. Use of natural or organic pesticide alternatives (typically those which are derived from plants which have pesticidal properties).
- b. Use of “least-toxic” pesticides.
- c. Selection and use of traditional pesticides that provide acceptable control with consideration given to human health and environmental effects.