

City of San Mateo

Integrated Pest Management Plan

Introduction

The City of San Mateo Integrated Pest Management Plan (Plan) shall facilitate implementation of the City of San Mateo Integrated Pest Management Policy. This Plan may be amended from time to time to reflect the City's implementation vision, as well as conform to the changing regulatory environment.

Definitions

Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Also referred to as reduced-risk pest management, IPM is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties. Pesticides are used only after monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines, and treatments are made with the goal of removing only the target organism. Pest control materials are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial and non-target organisms, and the environment. IPM techniques could include physical or mechanical controls (e.g., hand labor or mowing); cultural controls (e.g., mulching, disking, or alternative plant type selection); biological controls (e.g., ladybugs and other natural enemies or predators); and reduced risk chemical controls (e.g., soaps or oils).

Pesticide. A Pesticide is defined as: any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, or mitigating any pest. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, unwanted plants (weeds), or fungi. The term pesticide applies to herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, molluscicides, and other substances used to control pests. Antimicrobial agents are not included in this definition of pesticides.

IPM Protocols

The City will develop IPM plans that will outline pest management guidelines for the most persistent and frequent pests.

- Use preventative maintenance and the most recent best management practices as a primary strategy to prevent key pests and thereby minimize the use of chemical pesticides.
- Establish inspection procedures for key pests to monitor pest population and tolerance levels based on the biological, aesthetic, and economic loss each site can tolerate, and set pest population levels at which corrective action should be taken.
- Use IPM techniques, as applicable, to the maximum extent practicable.
- Use pilot programs and report on the results of new less toxic measures for animal and plant pest control.

Restricted Chemicals

The City may elect to restrict or discourage use of certain pesticides on City-controlled properties and proposes to eliminate the use of pesticides of water quality concern listed in the current MRP. Emergency applications of restricted chemical pesticides can be authorized by the project manager by submitting a written recommendation from a Pest Control Advisor (PCA) for use of the particular chemical and should describe why less toxic alternatives are not practical. The PCA recommendation should be provided by the contractor or the City as applicable. The list of restricted chemicals may be amended for time-to-time.

Material Management

An annual storage inventory will be conducted to remove and properly dispose of any chemicals that are unwanted or that are prohibited from City use by the IPM Plan.

Program Coordination

As Public Works coordinates implementation of the Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit, which requires that the City practice IPM, the Public Works Regulatory Compliance Manager will coordinate implementation of this Plan. City staff from both Public Works and the Department of Parks and Recreation will participate in the SMCWPPP Parks Maintenance & IPM Work Group to discuss regulatory changes, chemicals of concern, and improved Best Management Practices.

Staff Education and Training

Applicator training and supervision. Training will be provided to City staff who apply, prescribe, or supervise pesticide application. Minimum training will conform with:

- DPR pesticide training requirements as outlined in the California Code of Regulations Title 3, Division 6 for pesticide applicators and advisors.
- Annual training for all staff who apply pesticides on the job.

Non-Designated Staff. City staff that does not apply pesticides as part of their regular job will receive annual outreach about the City's IPM program and appropriate protocols for controlling pests.

Contractor Compliance

The City is required by the MRP to ensure that contractors implement IPM practices, including reporting. City of San Mateo pest control service providers must follow all aspects of the City of San Mateo IPM Plan, including the restrictions contained in "Restricted Chemicals" above. All pest control providers must enter into contract with the City prior to commencing work. City staff (project managers that purchase pest control services) are responsible for ensuring that contracts contain specifications, within the scope, requiring adherence to the City's IPM Policy. Contract scope language is attached to this IPM Plan as Exhibit A.

Public Outreach

The City will use appropriate opportunities to communicate with the public about IPM strategies and their benefits. Public outreach will include:

- IPM information provided to schools, residents, and businesses via special events, SMCWPPP program activities (i.e. county fair booth, elementary school assembly program, Our Water, Our World outreach partnership and publications, etc.) and other appropriate venues.
- Residential and business pesticide disposal options will be provided and promoted through the County household Hazardous Waste Program and advertised on city web site, Peninsula TV, and other venues.
- IPM and pesticide use records available to the public upon request
- Which chemical pesticide alternatives were considered and tested, and an explanation for their inclusion or rejection for city use
- As part of the City's commitment to less-toxic pesticide management, city divisions will use appropriate opportunities (e.g. signage) to communicate with the public about IPM strategies and their benefits.
- Noticing of pesticide use (signage) in most used indoor/outdoor recreational facilities.

Record Keeping

Divisions whose staff apply or oversee application of pesticides will maintain a record-keeping system to catalog pest management procedures and each pesticide application and complete a Monthly Pesticide Use Report (Exhibit B). Commercial pest control service providers will also provide a Monthly Pesticide Use Report to the Project Manager that they contract with.

Project Managers will forward the Monthly Pesticide Use Reports to the Regulatory Compliance Manager for applications by City staff, or for service providers whose contracts they oversee. Any recommendations for restricted chemical use must also be included with the monthly report. These records become part of the Annual Report.

Annual Evaluation and Report

The City reports on progress implementing IPM program requirements in the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit Annual Report, due in September of each year. The Regulatory Compliance Manager coordinates this effort. All quantities of restricted chemicals must be reported in the annual report.