



City of Santa Barbara

Parks and Recreation Department, Creeks Division

Memorandum

DATE: April 3, 2015

TO: Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee

FROM: Kathy Frye, Natural Areas Planner

SUBJECT: IPM Exemption Request, Parma Park Olive Grove, Application of Glyphosate

The Parks Division is requesting an exemption renewal for application of glyphosate (AquaMaster® formulations) to control native shrubs within the historic olive grove in Parma Park. Glyphosate is on the City's Integrated Pest Management Tier 2 Materials List and therefore cannot be used without an exemption.

Parma Park burned in the November 2008 Tea Fire, including the 100 year old olive grove planted by the Parma family. Prior to the Tea Fire, the olive trees had a continuous canopy that shaded the ground and discouraged the growth of other plant species within the grove. Post-fire restoration of the olive trees is performed through management of olive stump sprouts, selecting new leaders and training leaders to tree form. Maintenance of the grove is performed to remove competing vegetation and includes the manual removal of exotic annual weeds and grasses, and the manual removal of olive tree root runners between established orchard trees. Without the dense canopy cover, brush and native shrubs have encroached upon the re-establishing olive trees and compete for light, nutrients, water and space. In 2013, native shrubs were cut back and the City was granted an IPM exemption to apply AquaMaster to native shrub stumps. The City is requesting renewal of the exemption for 2015 grove maintenance. Santa Barbara Pest Control, a City contractor, applied AquaMaster in 2013 and will be contracted for the 2015 work.

The Parks Division is dedicated to IPM methods and the preservation and restoration of native habitats within Parma Park, as demonstrated by the restoration of a Eucalyptus grove burnt in the Tea Fire. Eucalyptus trees were cut down, stumps were ground and two thousand individual native plants, including twenty two native plant species, were installed. Today native coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian and grassland habitat are thriving where the Eucalyptus grove once stood in the park.

cc: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Santos Escobar, Park Manager



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department, Creeks Division

Memorandum

DATE: April 3, 2015
TO: Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
FROM: Kathy Frye, Natural Areas Planner
SUBJECT: IPM Exemption Request, Parma Park, Application of Glyphosate

The Parks Division is requesting an exemption for application of glyphosate (AquaMaster® formulations) to control invasive exotic onion weed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*) at Parma Park. Glyphosate is on the City's Integrated Pest Management Tier 2 Materials List and therefore cannot be used without an exemption.

Parma Park burned in the November 2008 Tea Fire. Staff and contractors attempted to control the spread of onion weed by manual means during three years after the fire. Each perennial plant is capable of producing 2,000 – 13,000 seeds and, by 2012, the open ground left by the fire and the prolific seed production of onion weed resulted in an exponential infestation. It was/is primarily along the dirt utility road through the center of the park and along the steep banks adjacent to the road. It has also been observed along trails. The Parks Division received approval from the IPM Committee to apply glyphosate in this area and is requesting a renewal for this year. Santa Barbara Pest Control, a City contractor, will be hired to apply AquaMaster. The contractor has used a Herbi sprayer that produces micron particles that spray out as a fine mist, minimizing drift and maximizing efficiency.

The Parks Division has demonstrated its commitment to limiting the use of pesticides and herbicides at Parma Park, where feasible. The City has taken an aggressive approach for exotic species removal accomplished through manual methods. Work completed includes the preparation of the Parma Park Invasive Species Management Plan (2013) and the targeted removal of onion weed, castor bean, mullein, periwinkle, pampas grass, mustard, fennel and general removal of non-native species along trails and roads. Over the past two years, the Parks Division has also teamed up with the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office in a grant for the removal of carnation spurge (*Euphorbia terracina*), a newly emerging invasive species within Parma Park and the County of Santa Barbara.

cc: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Santos Escobar, Park Manager