



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 24, 2010

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Integrated Pest Management 2009 Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission accept the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2009 Annual Report and recommend that the report be forwarded to City Council.

DISCUSSION:

Background

The City of Santa Barbara adopted an IPM Strategy on January 26, 2004, to provide an ongoing specific program to further reduce the amount and toxicity of pesticides used on City property and, where feasible, to eliminate pesticide use in public areas using alternative methods. The City had been informally identifying and employing the least toxic alternatives since the 1990s. The City's IPM Strategy formalized this effort, and requires an annual program report to be presented to the IPM Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Airport Commission, and City Council.

In addition to reviewing annual program implementation, the 2009 Report discusses the Pesticide Hazard And Exposure Reduction (PHAER) Zone Model adopted by the City Council on February 14, 2006, and improvements to City facilities to reduce pesticide use. The IPM Strategy required the development of a "Zone System" tied to the IPM Approved Materials List to limit pesticide use based on potential human exposure.

The PHAER Zone model assigns Green, Yellow, or Red/Special Circumstances Zone designations to sites, or portions of sites, based upon the potential for exposure by humans and sensitive habitat to hazardous pesticides and allows use of carefully screened materials by zone designation. For example, Green Zones are areas of high human exposure potential and only pesticides designated as "Green", which show very limited human and environmental impacts may be used. Yellow Zones are areas with moderate human or environmental hazard. Red/Special Circumstances Zones are areas where high hazard pesticides for highly challenging pest management problems are needed to control pests. Overall, the Zone Model provides for incremental and measurable expansion of risk-reduction efforts, along with communicating clearly to the public the general potential for pesticide exposure.

The 2009 IPM Annual Report (Attachment 1) addresses the following:

- Types of pest problems encountered by each department
- Types and quantities of pesticides used by each department
- Exemptions currently in place and granted the past year
- Alternative pest management practices
- Effectiveness of alternative practices
- Proposed changes to pest management practices

2009 IPM Program Highlights

In the 6th year of the IPM program, the City saw an increase in pesticide use predominately to control mosquitoes, termites and rodents at the Airport. The use of Green Materials increased from 239 units to 559.5 units. The use of yellow materials increased from 868.5 units to 1,134 units. There was an increase in the use of Red materials from 25 units to 676.

City-wide

- The total units of pesticides applied increased from 1,132 in 2008 to 2,369 in 2009.
- Units of Green materials increased from 239 to 559.5.
- Units of Yellow materials increased from 868.5 to 1,134.
- Units of Red materials increased from 25 to 676.
- The number of times pesticides applied (including Green, Yellow, and Red materials) increased from 160 to 211.

Airport

- Due to an overall average rain season in 2009, applications of Altosid XR, an extended release, yellow mosquito control product, increased from 621 units to 700 units. 507 units of Vectobac G a green material to control mosquitoes were used as well.
- Applications of Ditrac, a Yellow material, for rodent control were increased from 33 units to 39 units. 55 units of Diphacinone a Yellow material were also used for rodent control.
- 14,024 labor hours were spent performing alternative efforts for weed control, etc.
- Applications of the Yellow materials Roundup Pro, Surflan and XL2G used to control weeds increased from 137 units to 328 units.
- An exemption for Vikane a Red material was granted for the treatment of an infestation of drywood termites in two Airport building. As well as Fumitoxin, to reduce airfield rodent populations necessary to maintain a safe environment for aircraft.

Creeks

- The units of pesticides increased from zero to 11.4.
- Units of Green materials increased from zero to 10.
- Units of Yellow material increased from zero to 1.4
- Application of 367 yards of mulch.

Golf

- The units of pesticides applied increased from 29 to 55.
- Units of Yellow materials decreased from 5 to 2.7.
- Units of Red materials increased significantly from 24 to 52.
- The golf course continues to brew microorganisms and compost tea for the greens.
- Two newly constructed golf greens were seeded with disease resistant bent grass.

Parks Division

- The units of pesticides applied decreased from 78 to 7.
- Units of Yellow materials decreased from 38 to 7.
- No Red materials were used in 2009.
- Application of 1,700 yards of mulch.

Public Works

- The units of pesticides applied increased from 28 to 33.
- Units of Green materials increased from 20 to 32.
- Units of Yellow materials decreased 8 to 1.
- No Red material was used in 2009.

Waterfront Department

- No pesticides were applied in 2009.

IPM Advisory Committee Recommendation

At a special meeting held March 9, 2010, the IPM Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the 2009 IPM Annual Report and recommended that the report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Airport Commission, and City Council for review and approval. A memo from Greg Chittick, Chair on behalf of the IPM Advisory Committee is attached (Attachment 2).

ATTACHMENTS: 1. IPM 2009 Annual Report
2. Memo from IPM Advisory Committee

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