



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 28, 2012

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Integrated Pest Management 2011 Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission accept the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2011 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 2011 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 IPM 2011 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

IPM 2011 Program Highlights

In the 8th year of the IPM program, the City saw an overall decrease in units of pesticide applied. The use of Green materials increased from 2,060.5 to 2,461.4 predominately to control mosquitoes. The use of Yellow materials decreased from 1,633.4 to 809.9 units. There was a dramatic decrease of Red materials from 289.3 to 7.06 units.

City-wide

- The total units of pesticides applied decreased from 3,983.2 in 2010 to 3,277.3 in 2011.
- Units of Green materials increased from 2,060.5 to 2,461.4.
- Units of Yellow materials decreased from 1,633.4 to 808.9.
- Units of Red materials decreased from 289.3 to 7.06.
- The number of times pesticides were applied (including Green, Yellow, and Red materials) increased from 186 to 212.

Airport

- The units of pesticides applied decreased from 2,978.7 in 2010 to 2,539 in 2011.
- Units of Green materials increased from 1,168.9 to 1,755.
- Units of Yellow materials decreased from 1,530.9 to 783.9.
- Units of Red materials decreased from 278.9 to zero.
- The Airport spent 5,140 hours in alternative methods of pest control and spread 280 yards of mulch in planter areas.

Golf

- The units of pesticides applied increased from 16.6 in 2010 to 17.7 in 2011.
- Units of Green materials increased from .25 to .28.
- Units of Yellow materials increased from 6.0 to 10.4.
- Units of Red materials decreased from 10.4 to 7.

- The golf course continues to brew microorganisms and compost tea for the greens.

Parks Division

- The units of pesticides applied increased from 8.3 in 2010 to 9.23 in 2011.
- Units of Green materials decreased from 1.9 to zero.
- Units of Yellow materials increased from 6.4 to 9.23.
- No Red materials were applied.
- 840 yards of mulch was spread.

Public Works

- The units of pesticides applied decreased from 979.6 in 2010 to 711.3 in 2011.
- Units of Green materials decreased from 889.5 to 706.
- Units of Yellow materials decreased from 90.1 to 5.3.
- No Red materials were applied in 2011.
- Public Works used no rodenticides, using only traps instead.

Waterfront Department

- Mechanical trapping of 902 rats.

IPM Advisory Committee Recommendation

At a special meeting held March 6, 2012, the IPM Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the IPM 2011 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 2011 Annual Report
2. Memo from IPM Advisory Committee

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