



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 28, 2018

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Integrated Pest Management 2017 Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission review and approve the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2017 Annual Report and forward the report 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 2016 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 2017 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 2017 Program Highlights

Pesticides are reported in either pounds or gallons depending on whether they are dry or liquid. The table below provides a summary of total Citywide pesticide use for 2017, including any increase or decrease in use from 2016. Total gallons for Green and Red material increased 128% and 38% respectively, while yellow material decreased by 62%. Total pounds for all material decreased 5% overall, 98% for Yellow, and 69% for Red.

2017 Pesticide Use Summary – All City Departments

	Material Use			
	Green	Yellow	Red	Total
Gallons	3.22	69.03	16.4	88.65
Pounds	1235.2	9.16	77.7	1322.06
Change in Gallons from 2016	128%	-62%	38%	-54%
Change in Pounds from 2016	128%	-98%	-69%	-5%

Airport Department

The Airport Department increased overall pesticides use, including 60% for material applied in gallons and 21% for material applied in pounds. The Airport Department treated one building for termites using Zythor and applied Weevil-cide, an Aluminum Phosphide based fumigant, to control gophers on the airfield. The Mosquito and Vector Management District applied 566.45 lbs. of Altosid and 282.91 lbs. of Vectobac G on the Airport's behalf to control mosquito sources and prevent West Nile Virus and other disease transmission. During a 2016 FAA inspection, vegetation was noted as blocking airfield lights and signs. The Airport applied 114.59 gallons of Roundup Promax and 62 gallons of Surflan A.S., both yellow materials, to control weeds on the runway, in addition to manual weed control.

Parks and Recreation Department

The Parks and Recreation Department decreased pesticide use by 67%. The Parks Division used Sluggo (Green), Iron Phosphate, at Alice Keck Park Memorial Garden and the A.C. Postel Memorial Rose Garden to combat slugs and snails. The Creeks Division applied .71 gallons (1:16 dilution rate) of the herbicide Polaris (Yellow) at Arundo

treatment sites along Arroyo Burro Creek, throughout 15 applications. The Golf Division decreased overall pesticide use by 53% from 2016, mainly because no Fore (Red) fungicide was applied in 2017.

Public Works Department

The Public Works Department decreased pesticide use by 66% from 2016. Vectobac G (Green) was applied 40 times over the course of the year for the treatment of mosquitos. As is typical, the majority of the pesticide was applied at the Andrée Clark Bird Refuge, with additional sites including: Lighthouse Creek at La Mesa Park; culvert at Dwight Murphy Field/Por La Mar; ditch at 3015 Calle Noguera; creek, ditches and drains at Chase Palm Park; channel at Municipal Tennis Courts on Old Coast Highway, and the bioswale at the Honda Valley Preserve.

Alternative Practices

Tracked hours for City-wide alternative practices increased 33%, from 9,148 hours in 2016 to 12,198 hours in 2017. Of the total tracked hours for 2017, 89% of the time was spent maintaining weeds through mulching, hand weeding, weed whipping and other practices; 10% was spent mechanically trapping gophers, squirrels, rats and mic; and 1% was spent on bee control.

Plans for 2018

On September, 19, 2017, the City Council adopted Resolution 17-097 designating Santa Barbara as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, and designated the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) as the BEE CITY USA sponsor assigned to facilitate the program. The Department will apply for the annual renewal of the City of Santa Barbara's BEE CITY USA designation every January, and recognize National Pollinator Week in coordination with Earth Day festivities. The Department is currently developing a webpage containing BEE CITY USA and local affiliate contact information, while establishing a policy in the Pesticide Hazard And Exposure Reduction management model relating to pollinator conservation.

The Parks and Recreation Department will continue to administer and review the IPM strategy and PHAER Zone. Also, staff from all departments will continue to identify and test promising new materials that assist with Integrated Pest Management strategies.

IPM Advisory Committee Recommendation

At a special meeting held February 26, 2018, the IPM Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the IPM 2017 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 Larry Saltzman, Pesticide Awareness and

Alternatives Coalition representative, on behalf of the IPM Advisory Committee is attached (Attachment 2).

Airport Commission Recommendation

On March 21, 2018, the Airport Commission reviewed and approved the IPM 2017 Annual Report.

City Council Meeting

The report is scheduled on the April 24, 2018 City Council Agenda for review and approval.

ATTACHMENTS: 1. IPM 2017 Annual Report
2. Memo from IPM Advisory Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Santos M. Escobar Jr., Parks Manager

APPROVED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director