

## RIVER FOREST PARK DISTRICT

### INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

**Introduction:** This Integrated Pest Management Policy ("Policy") shall govern the adoption, implementation, and oversight of an Integrated Pest Management program for all sites under the purview of the River Forest Park District ("District") effective April 11, 2016. Specifically, all pesticide use on grounds or in buildings maintained by the District will be subject to guidelines stated herein.

**Findings:**

WHEREAS, pesticides are currently applied to property owned or operated and maintained by the District;

WHEREAS, it is difficult or impossible to prevent patrons and employees of the District from coming into contact with those pesticides;

WHEREAS, District is dedicated to protecting the health and welfare of its patrons and employees;

WHEREAS, scientific research indicates that no pesticide is completely safe, and that various pesticides may pose risks to human health, particularly to the health of children, the elderly and other sensitive populations as well as non target animal and plant populations;

WHEREAS, Integrated Pest Management represents an effective, environmentally sound and economical pest control method, the goal of which is to control pest species while reducing and, where possible, eliminating dependence on chemical pest control strategies;

NOW, THEREFORE, the District shall develop and implement the following Integrated Pest Management program:

**Statement of Policy:** It shall be the policy of the District that Integrated Pest Management will be used to prevent and control pest problems in or on property maintained by the District. Nonchemical controls shall be given preference over chemical controls.

**Defining Integrated Pest Management:** "Integrated Pest Management" (IPM) is a sustainable process for managing pests that relies on knowledge about the plant or insect pest and its interactions with the environment and utilizes a variety of control measures, including structural, physical, cultural, biological and, only as a last resort, chemical controls, in a way that minimizes environmental, health and economic risks.

**District Integrated Pest Management Program:** The District shall submit a detailed work plan for implementing Integrated Pest Management which will incorporate the following approach:

1. Monitor pest populations. The District shall collect baseline data on an ongoing basis to locate and determine pest population densities and rates of growth, and whether and to what extent natural enemy population(s) are present. Records shall be kept of such monitoring.
2. Establish Tolerance Levels. To decide whether treatment is warranted, an acceptable tolerance level shall be established for each pest and site by determining the type, size, and density of

pest population that must be present to cause levels of unacceptable environmental, aesthetic and/or economic damage, or create a risk to human health.

3. Identify a range of preferred treatments. Nonchemical, non-biological control strategies including structural, physical/mechanical and cultural controls shall be considered first. Chemical approaches should be used only as a last resort. In selecting a treatment approach, the following criteria shall be considered:
  - a. Least hazardous to human health.
  - b. Least disruptive of natural controls.
  - c. Least toxic to non target organisms.
  - d. Least damaging to the general environment.
  - e. Most likely to produce a permanent reduction in habitat conducive to pest populations above the tolerance level
  - f. Cost effectiveness over a reasonable term.
4. Educate Staff. Education is a critical component of a successful IPM program. The District shall commit to providing ongoing training for employees and assisting in developing educational programs for the public.
5. Notify Contractors. The District shall inform all contractors of their obligation to comply with the IPM program.

**Authorization, Review and Evaluation of the IPM Program:**

1. An IPM advisory committee ("Committee") shall review all IPM plans and review all pesticides used by the District. The Committee shall be governed by the following rules:
  - a. The 5-person Committee shall be composed of representatives of the District, the Village Sustainability Committee, and other representatives of the public. The District's Board of Commissioners shall appoint all Committee Members.
  - b. All members shall be in agreement with the intent of the Policy and shall seek management techniques that minimize or eliminate the use of pesticides.
2. The District shall convene and conduct the meetings of the Committee.
3. Annual reports evaluating the IPM program shall be submitted to the Committee by the District.
4. Committee shall conduct a review of the program's overall effectiveness in managing pest populations. This assessment shall include an evaluation of all chemical applications, including a figure reflecting the total quantities of pesticide active ingredient applied, as well as any new information on the hazards of chemical controls.

**Notification Requirements:** The public shall be notified of any interior or exterior broadcast applications of pesticides, as well as any bombings or dusting of large exposed areas in or on any property maintained by the District as follows:

1. Signs shall be posted at the time of application of pesticides.
  - a. Signs shall be headed "Notice of Pesticide Application." Signs shall contain the following information: the name of the pesticide, the date of application and a telephone number that can be called for more information.
  - b. Signs shall be posted at the entrance to all buildings where pesticides have been applied.
  - c. Signs shall be posted at all park entrances where pesticides have been applied.

- d. Signs shall be posted at appropriate intervals along property lines abutting residential areas.
2. Prior notification shall not be required when a situation presents a direct threat to the public health and requires immediate action.

**Meeting Federal and State Regulations:** No pesticide shall be used unless it is registered for its intended use under the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (“FIFRA”), 7 U.S.C. § 135 et seq. The District shall not violate any state or federal rules and regulations relating to pesticide use, or the safety provisions set forth on pesticide labels.

**Severability:** If any section, sentence, or clause of this Policy is held invalid or unconstitutional, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance.

**Effective Date** This Policy shall take effect upon passage by the District Board of Commissioners and publication as required by law.

**Definitions:**

1. “Biological Controls” means the use of a pest’s natural predators or parasites to eliminate or reduce its population.
2. “Bombing” means a treatment that releases liquid aerosols into the air. Examples include spraying, misting or fogging. “Broadcast” means the application of pesticides to broad expanses of surfaces. An example includes application of pesticides to lawns.
3. “Cultural Controls” means the use of education to effect changes in persons’ perceptions and behaviors as a method of preventing pest problems, avoiding pesticide use and more broadly promoting the health and sustainability of a given area.
4. “Mechanical Controls” means the use of mechanical procedures to eliminate or reduce pest populations, such as mowing and aeration of lawns.
5. “Natural Controls” means the use of any method that does not employ synthetic substances as a way to eliminate or reduce pest populations and which may draw upon elements common to the environment. Examples include companion planting and attracting beneficial insects to reduce pest problems in gardens.
6. “Pests” means any unwanted insects, plants, fungi (molds), and rodents. “Pesticide” means any substance or mixture of substances designed or intended for use to prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate pests, or to be used as a plant growth regulator. Pesticides include, but are not limited to, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and rodenticides, and certain pest specific compounds of biological origin aimed at disrupting the lifecycle of the pest.
7. “Physical Controls” means the use of controls that physically inhibit pests’ ability to inhabit an area by modifying their environment. Examples of physical controls include using traps and barriers, influencing temperatures, controlled burning or hand pulling of weeds.
8. “Structural Controls” means the use of a whole systems approach to controlling pest populations, which may include addressing structural issues in both buildings and landscapes. Examples of structural controls include adopting long term maintenance practices such as caulking and sealing, and repairing the building or landscape to remove places where pests may breed, such as removing indentations in the earth that cause puddles where mosquitoes may breed.