



VPCA INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

Adopted June 22, 2017

*“INTRODUCTION: The City of Irvine will focus on long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems with minimum impact on human health, the environment, and non-target organisms with the limited use of pesticides * in accordance with direction provided by the City Council for Parks, Fields and Playgrounds; and City-wide Pest Management Guiding Principles:*

- a. Use of organic pesticides in all City properties.*
- b. Limit exposure to any pesticides where children and the general public congregate.*
- c. Incorporate additional guidance on use of pesticides for city rights of way, facilities, and other properties as reflected in the staff report.*
- d. Use EPA Level pesticides in a targeted manner, and only if deemed necessary to protect public health and economic loss by a licensed pest control adviser and City staff, when pests cannot be managed by other methods that we would have.”*

I. Non-Chemical Control Measures (p. 2)

1. Total Landscaping utilizes cultural controls appropriate to our plant palette to reduce or prevent pests such as adjusting the frequency and amount of irrigation, fertilization and mowing height.
2. Total Landscaping uses mechanical controls appropriate to our plant palette to reduce or eliminate pest problems such as handpicking, physical barriers, or machinery to reduce pest abundance indirectly.
3. VPCA does not use environmental manipulation to control birds and mammals on the common property.
4. VPCA does not utilize biological control practices using living organisms, including predators, parasites, pathogens or herbivores to reduce pests.

II. Pesticide Controls (p. 3)

The sections of the city code that apply most directly to the VPCA common areas include Parks, Fields, Playgrounds and Rights of Way (Street medians/Parkways) (See p. 3).

Background: Chemicals are categorized by the EPA into three levels, with level III being the weakest, or least toxic, and level I being the strongest, or most toxic.

Current practice by Total Landscaping on VPCA property includes use of three (3) chemical products that fall within the EPA Level III or “caution” category. (EPA Level III pesticides are labeled “Caution”; Level II is dubbed, “Warning” and Level I carries the “danger” label.)

The three chemicals are used sparingly by Total Landscaping and treated areas are designated by yellow caution flags. Each application has a specific target:

- Round-up, a Glyphosate-based herbicide, is applied in a 1% solution when needed for general weed control in areas afflicted by excessive weed growth.
- Fusellade, a Fluazifop-P-butyl based herbicide, which contains petroleum distillate, is applied in a 1% solution, to control overgrowth of Bermuda grass.
- Sedgehammer, a Halosulfuron-methyl based herbicide, is applied at a ratio of 0.5 ounces per gallon, solely on nut grass, a rapidly spreading invasive species.

III. Other Pesticides Used within VPCA

1. Termite Treatment: An annual inspection is scheduled with spot treatment performed by injection as needed throughout the year.
2. Rodents: VPCA has occasionally authorized Handy Man, Jose Monroy, to place enclosed rat traps with bait in the Pittosporum in front of the Green Tree Park. In those instances Mr. Monroy is tasked with monitoring the traps and disposes with any contents. This is only done on an “as needed” basis, not as a current or scheduled practice.
3. Ants: VPCA has occasionally used standard, enclosed, commercially purchased ant traps as needed in the office area.

IV. Cleaning Products used in Buildings/Facilities

1. VPCA’s cleaning service uses organic cleaning products in the office and clubhouse.
2. Pool furniture and outdoor furniture in the barbecue area are also wiped down without the use of caustic substances.

* The term “pesticide” encompasses “herbicides”

V. VPCA Herbicide Disclosure Policy

1. The following notice language is posted as a permanent notice at the bottom of the office bulletin board (official notice location):

“The Association’s landscaper may at any time use a certain herbicide(s) in common areas for the control of weeds and / or other invasive plants or grasses. Treated areas will be designated by yellow caution flags. The herbicides used by VPCA’s landscaper are:

- a. Round-up;
- b. Fusellade; and
- c. Sedgehammer.

Product spec sheets are available at the VPCA office. All three herbicides are EPA-rated Level III “caution” category herbicides: Level III products are rated least-hazardous in the EPA classification system. Residents are responsible to ensure their children, other family members, tenants, guests, invitees and pets do not enter upon the areas of application until dried, nor consume anything from any treated area.”

2. The above language is posted as a permanent notice on the Website under Recreation & Facilities \ Greenbelts;
3. The above language is published annually in the *Villager* in early Spring;

4. The following statement is published to the membership in the Annual Policy Statement: "Notice(s) of common area herbicide / pesticide use is posted on the bulletin board at the VPCA office."