

City of Morgan Hill
2019 Annual Report
Integrated Pest Management
for Facilities, Parks, Streets and
Public Open Space



Table of Contents

Table of Contents 2
Integrated Pest Management Plan Overview 3
Plan Requirements and Current Practices 3
Pest Problem Trends 4
2018 Usage Data – Performed by City of Morgan Hill Staff..... 5
2019 IPM Plan Goals 6
End of Document 6

Integrated Pest Management Plan Overview

The goal of the City of Morgan Hill IPM Plan is to align city maintenance practices in public buildings, parks, landscaped grounds, public right of way and open space areas with the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to pest control.

The IPM Plan applies to all city facilities and all maintenance activities, and the Management Policy Statement of the plan defines it as a tool to assist the City of Morgan Hill to carry out pest management operations using Integrated Pest Management techniques in a manner to control pests effectively, and to minimize the use of pesticides. Per the plan, whenever feasible, non-toxic alternative pest control methods will be used and efforts will be made by the City to seek new technology, best management practices and the least toxic approaches to address all pest control issues. The Plan is available for the use of City employees for educating staff and the public about the City's commitment to, and implementation of, IPM practices.

Plan Requirements and Current Practices

The IPM Plan includes a Management Policy Statement, Implementation Responsibilities, Citywide IPM Requirements, Staff Training, Record Keeping and Annual Reports.

Currently, the City's Maintenance Manager has the responsibility to administer and manage the IPM plan and all regulatory reporting for work performed by City Staff. City managed contractors that perform pesticide applications are required to obtain the proper licensing and are required to report usage to any regulatory agencies per their permits and must submit pesticides used on City property for review and must abide by all rules listed in the City of Morgan Hill IPM Plan.

City staff currently performs weed abatement in parks, public rights of way (ROW), and utility roadways & pathways, while City managed contractors perform this same service on street medians, and facilities landscapes. Any pesticides utilized cannot contain a signal word of "Danger" or "Warning" on the label for routine maintenance, while pesticides with a signal word of "Caution" are allowed.

Although not required by State or Federal regulations, the City of Morgan Hill IPM Plan continues the requirement that City owned or maintained parks are posted for public

City of Morgan Hill Integrated Pest Management 2019 Annual Report

knowledge a minimum of 3 days prior to a pesticide application, and the posting cannot be removed any earlier than 1 day after it is safe to re-enter the application area.

The City IPM Plan also defines that employees that will be applying pesticides be trained per the CA Department of Pesticide Regulations requirements, and that the IPM Administrator informs all City staff on an annual basis of the City's IPM Plan, restrictions on pesticide usage, and appropriate procedures for controlling pests. All City staff who apply pesticides have certifications that are renewable every two years which require 20 hours of continuing education training prior to obtain a recertification. All City employees performing this work were compliant in 2019. All City Staff are annually notified via e-mail of the IPM requirements in the form of the current soft copy document and a list of bullet point items of the critical points of the plan required of staff that do not perform pesticide application as a part of their normal job duties.

Pest Problem Trends

Pest trends in calendar year 2019 included successful applications of Clearcast herbicide to deal with the continued problems with cattails blocking the waterways within the channel adjacent to Butterfield Boulevard. As noted in the previous report, the first application occurred during the final quarter of 2018, a pesticide, when it was also noted that Clearcast is not a regulated pesticide and therefore does not require a permit for use, and is not reportable to the regulating agencies, making this a desirable pesticide to continue use due to the low toxic effects. The cattails were significantly reduced this year with additional applications in May and November of 2019. The rodent activity in Community Park continues to be reduced by the continued use of the use of a less toxic, practice of utilizing carbon monoxide gas into the holes and dens of the burrowing animals. The City owned and maintained buildings continued to be serviced regularly by contract services and remains successful.

**City of Morgan Hill
Integrated Pest Management 2019 Annual Report**

2019 Usage Data – Performed by City of Morgan Hill Staff

The following table denotes the amount of pesticides used to treat our City ROW and Parks for calendar year 2019:

Pesticide	Streets			Pesticide	Parks		
	Amount	Unit	Acreage		Amount	Unit	Acreage
Ranger Pro - Oz	51.90	gal	58.2	Ranger Pro - Oz	9.50	gal	9.25
Dimension Ultra WP -Oz	2.23	gal					
Capstone	22.20	gal					
No Foam B	6.24	gal					
Clearcast	1.00	gal					

2020 IPM Plan Goals

Notable in the 2019 Usage Data section is the fact that the parks usage of Ranger Pro was reduced from 17.3 gallons in 2018 to 9.5 gallons in 2019, equating to a 46% reduction in usage. This is on top of the 54% reduction from 2017 to 2018 noted in the previous report.

For the 2020 calendar year, additional steps are being put into place to reduce pesticide use, and the goal will be no usage of pesticides in the park areas to determine if other alternatives (cutting, mulching, etc...) are fiscally sustainable using the current level of resources available.

Annual training for staff will be completed in the fall, prior to fall pesticide applications, including an overview of CA Department of Pesticide Regulations for employees who apply pesticides in the course of their duties, as well as training on forms for IPM Coordinators, and a copy of the current IPM plan will be sent to each employee.

The IPM administrator will continue to monitor staff performing pesticide applications to assure proper training and continuing education is up to date as required by the California Department of Pesticide regulation.

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