

CITY OF WILSONVILLE

Integrated Pest Management 2019 Activity Report



**WILSONVILLE
OREGON**



What is Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

The City of Wilsonville recognizes the importance of sound environmental stewardship and is committed to optimizing management practices to protect the people and the environment within and surrounding facilities, parks, and infrastructure maintained by City staff.

Pests can be a troublesome and persistent problem. Choosing the appropriate response requires careful planning and implementation to ensure a successful result. Whether the targeted pest is a plant, insect, or animal, the City's response takes into account public safety, environmental health and available resources.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) offers a broad-based approach that relies on a combination of common-sense practices. An IPM Plan identifies management areas and key pests of concern and outlines approaches mindful of pest biology and the resources of the responsible organization while minimizing the risk associated with pest management.

What's in this report?

The City of Wilsonville adopted the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan in 2018. This report identifies common pests and presents a synopsis of program goals and pest management actions employed by City staff during 2019.

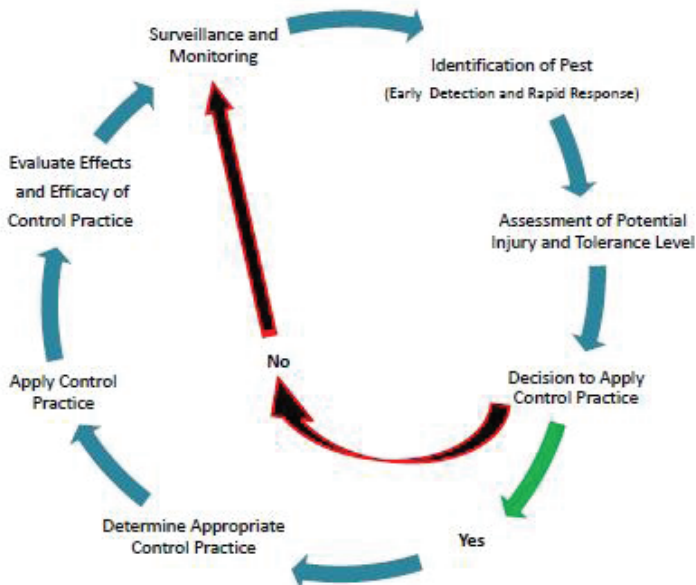
IPM Program Goals

The goals for selecting treatment principles and developing pest management strategies include:

- Preservation of the natural system, including pollinator habitat
- Emphasize practices to minimize risk to human health
- Reduce and eliminate, where possible, chemical pest control treatments
- Ensure cost-effectiveness in the short and long term
- Evaluate the efficacy of the integrated pest management



Flow Chart: How IPM Plan is Implemented





Common Pests

Many of the most common pests are familiar to most people. They include gophers, rats, yellow jackets, cockroaches, and plants, such as poison oak and Himalayan blackberry. Protecting people from human health pests is imperative, particularly in areas where human activity is high.

The IPM Plan relies on the following steps in addressing pests of concern:

- Define areas requiring management
- Maintain vigorous plant health through maintenance practices to optimize pest tolerance
- Identify pests likely to be encountered
- Determine the pest's life cycle and know which life stage to target
- Establish action threshold levels for each pest
- Scout and monitor for the presence of pests
- Implement sequential corrective action when pest populations have been observed
- Document scouting and monitoring observations, treatments, and treatment results
- Determine if corrective actions reduced or prevented pest populations



Methods of Pest Management

There are four practices used by the City of Wilsonville to control pests. Cultural, mechanical and biological practices are prioritized over the use of chemical treatments.

Cultural practices are sound agronomic and horticultural practices that optimize plant health and suppress insects, disease, and weed growth. These practices can decrease pest establishment, reproduction, dispersal, and survival.

Carefully regulating irrigation, for example, reduces the likelihood of root disease and weeds while increasing the vigor of a plant.

Mechanical practices use a variety of tools and equipment to eliminate pests, suppress their reproductive capacity, or block them out. Examples include:

- Trapping rodents
- Mowing dandelions prior to seed formation
- Pressure washing pathways
- Hand-pulling, string-trimming, steaming, or flame-weeding undesirable plants
- Topdressing, overseeding and aerating turf grass

Biological practices may use biological control agents to act as predators or parasites of pest species or utilize other beneficial organisms that improve plant health by enhancing soil quality.

Chemical Use: A Last Resort

Chemicals are the last option, if cultural, mechanical and biological options are not effective. The use of chemicals is limited to “low impact” products that provide the greatest level of protection for people and the environment.



Chemical Controls: When Other Methods Fail

Reducing the use of chemical controls is an important goal of the IPM plan. Chemical controls are only used if other practices are not fully effective or too costly.

Any chemicals used are applied in a selective manner that reduces the risk to humans and the environment.

The City of Wilsonville uses the Low Impact Pesticide List provided by Oregon State University for use in the Oregon School IPM program, which includes synthetic and organic options. The list is updated annually and is vetted based on USEPA cancer data and only allows low or very low toxicity products with the signal word of CAUTION.



The City monitors which practices are used to control pests, including the area treated and labor hours required. The 2019 report illustrates the City's reliance of cultural or mechanical controls in favor of chemical practices.



Early Detection & Rapid Response

Not all pests are invasive but those that are can quickly become a difficult issue for crews to manage. If left unchecked, invasives can rapidly expand their range resulting in control efforts that are expensive, ineffective, or both.

The City employs the principle of Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) to stay ahead of the invasives by ensuring any new invasive establishments are rapidly identified and appropriate early control measures are implemented.



For More Information

The development of the City's Integrated Pest Management program is a collaboration among Public Works, Natural Resources and Parks Maintenance staff.

This report, and additional information about the City's Integrated Pest Management, is available at ci.wilsonville.or.us/naturalresources

To receive a copy of this report by mail, call 503-682-4960.



Directory

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