# Town of Danville Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy

The Town of Danville uses Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to manage pests on Town managed facilities. For the purposes of this policy, the Town adopts the integrated pest management definition provided by the University of California Statewide IPM Project:

> Integrated pest management is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties. Pesticides are used only after monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines, and treatments are made with the goal of removing only the target organisms. Pest management materials are selected and applied in a manner that minimize risks to human health, to beneficial and non-target organisms, and to the environment.

## Goals

- Ensure effective, economic pest management on Town property while minimizing health risks to the public and Town staff and risks to the environment that could result from pest management activities.
- Protect environmental quality by preventing pollutants from entering surface and ground water.
- Comply with requirements in the Town's stormwater NPDES permit.
- Promote transparency of Town pest-management actions.
- Increase public awareness of IPM.

## Implementation

The Stormwater Coordinator and the Maintenance Services Director will develop and periodically review an IPM Program, which will apply to all Town pest management activities. The Program will include:

- Adherence to IPM decision-making steps (see below) for managing pests on city-owned and maintained properties and facilities.
- Participation in countywide and regional efforts to further relevant policies and activities by the US Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, and the Contra Costa County Agricultural Commissioner.
- Maintenance of accurate records on IPM implementation and pesticide use.
- Ongoing and periodic staff training.
- Development of standard IPM Operating Procedures for key pests.
- Inclusion of Town IPM policies and practices in Town contracts or purchase orders for pest management.
- Maintenance of a list of available expert resources that may be accessed by staff.

The IPM Program will be reviewed by Town staff to incorporate updates as needed.

**IPM Decision-Making Steps**

IPM works because combined multiple strategies for pest management are more effective in the end than a single strategy. A good pest manager considers as many options as possible and tries to combine them into an effective program. Managers will look for new and creative ways to solve pest problems. Whenever possible, IPM will take a preventive approach by identifying and removing, to the degree feasible, the basic causes of the problem rather than merely attacking the symptoms (the pests). This prevention-oriented approach is also best achieved by combining a number of strategies.

1. Based on field observations, evaluate locations and sites where pest problems commonly occur to properly identify the pest, determine pest population size and location, and identify any natural enemy populations.
2. Identify conditions that contribute to the development of pest populations, and identify measures that could be employed to prevent and manage pest populations.

   Prevention measures may include:

   - Design, construction, and maintenance of landscapes and buildings to reduce and eliminate pest habitats.
   - Modification of management practices including watering, fertilizing, mulching, waste management, and food storage to discourage the development of a pest population or to increase the health and resilience of a landscape or particular plant.
   - Modification of pest ecosystems to reduce food, water sources, harborage, and access to buildings.
   - Education of staff and the public who use Town facilities about the connection between pests and the availability of food, harborage, and access, and the role humans can play in preventing and reducing pest problems.
3. Determine treatment thresholds that are based on the level of biological, aesthetic, or economic damage (or other effect) that is tolerable;
4. When a pest population reaches its treatment threshold, choose a set of treatment strategies that is appropriate for the site and the pest:

   - Evaluate non-pesticide management strategies before considering the use of pesticides.
   - Prioritize the use of physical controls such as sanitation, mowing weeds, using traps, and installing barriers.
   - Whenever possible, create landscapes that encourage naturally occurring insect parasites and predators (biological controls) to help manage pest insects.
   - When pesticides are necessary, select reduced-risk pesticides and use the minimum amounts needed to be effective.
   - Apply pesticides at the most effective treatment time, based on pest biology, monitoring, and other variables, such as weather, seasonal changes in wildlife use, and local conditions.
   - Whenever possible, use pesticide application methods, such as spot treatments and containerized baits that minimize opportunities for mobilization of the pesticide in stormwater runoff and minimize effects on non-target organisms.
   - Budgetary restrictions will be taken into consideration during this process.

5. Evaluate the results of treatments to improve pest management.

# Town of Danville Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program

**Tracking Pesticide Use**. The Town will maintain accurate records of pesticide use that are accessible for reference. [Note: A format for tracking pesticide use can be found at the end of this report.]

**Interface with the County Agricultural Commissioner**. When informed, the Town Stormwater Coordinator and Maintenance Services Director will periodically disseminate to staff information on how to identify when pesticides are being applied inconsistent with DPR regulations and how to report such incidents to the County Agricultural Commissioner.

**Staff Training**. All Town employees who within the scope of their duties apply or use pesticides will be periodically trained in IPM practices and the Town's IPM Policy. Trainings may be organized locally or staff may attend countywide or regional training sessions. The Maintenance Services Director will track employee attendance at training sessions. At this time (2019), the Town does not utilize employees to apply pesticides, only outside contractors.

**Standard IPM Operating Procedures**. The Town will follow Standard IPM Operating Procedures below:

1. Use cultural practices and pest prevention measures to minimize the occurrence of pest problems.
2. Set a threshold of tolerance for pests.
3. Use biological and physical controls that are environmentally appropriate and economically feasible to control pests.
4. Use pesticides to prevent or manage damaging pests only when necessary and select and apply them in a manner to minimize risks to humans, non-target organisms, and water sources, including stormwater. Where feasible for structural pest management, insecticides will be applied as containerized baits.
5. Avoid the use of pesticides that threaten water quality[1] especially in formulations and situations that pose a risk of contaminating stormwater runoff.
6. When Standard Operating Procedures are not applicable or sufficient to solve a pest problem, to determine the best course of action consistent with IPM principles, staff will seek expert advice.

**Public Outreach**. Public outreach efforts will include distribution of information, as appropriate, such as "Our Water, Our World" and "EcoWise Certified IPM Certification in Structural Pest Management" or equivalent programs. The Town will coordinate and keep records of the following:

1. A point of contact for the public to obtain information on IPM techniques.
2. The Town's, countywide, and regional advertising campaigns that focus on reducing the impact of urban pesticide use.
3. The Town's outreach to pest control operators (PCOs) and landscapers, or contributions to countywide or regional efforts to promote IPM to PCOs and landscapers.
4. Placement of messages focused on reducing the impact of urban pesticide use in the Town's newsletters or other publications.
5. Distribution of IPM information and resources at public outreach and citizen involvement events and City websites.
6. Distribution of information about less-toxic pest management to school-age children and coordination with the SRV Unified School District.

[1] As defined in the Municipal Regional Permit that is currently in effect.

**Contract Provisions**. The Maintenance Services Director will review contract provisions, or addenda to purchase orders, issued by the Town's Maintenance Department that contract for pest management services and monitor contract work to ensure Town IPM policies and practices are adhered to by all contractors performing pest management work on Town maintained properties and facilities.

**Stormwater NPDES Annual Report**. The Town's Stormwater Coordinator and the Town's Maintenance Services Director (or their designee) will prepare the portion of the Town's stormwater NPDES Annual Report related to Pesticides Toxicity Control.

## CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT

The Town will require all landscape contractors to:

- follow the IPM Decision Making Steps, as listed in this document,
- consult with the Town Maintenance Services Director (or their designee) before making pesticide applications, and
- report to the IPM Coordinator all pesticides used in the Town.

**Example of a Format for a Pesticide Use Report for a Municipality**

| Date | Target Pest | Location | Pesticide Product Name | EPA Reg. No. | Active Ingredient Chemical Name | % Active Ingredient in Product | Amount of Product Used | Units | Contractor |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |