



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** May 13, 2014

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Parks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Integrated Pest Management 2013 Annual Report

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council accept the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2013 Annual Report.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **Background**

The City of Santa Barbara adopted an IPM Strategy on January 26, 2004, to provide an ongoing specific program to further reduce the amount and toxicity of pesticides used on City property and, where feasible, to eliminate pesticide use in public areas using alternative methods. The City had been informally identifying and employing the least toxic alternatives since the 1990s. The City's IPM Strategy formalized this effort, and requires an annual program report to be presented to the IPM Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Airport Commission, and City Council.

The Parks and Recreation Department prepares and presents an annual IPM report to the IPM Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation and Airport Commissions, and City Council for their review.

#### **2013 Annual Report**

The 2013 Annual Report reviews program implementation, discusses the Pesticide Hazard And Exposure Reduction (PHAER) Zone Model adopted by the City Council on February 14, 2006, and presents the improvements to City facilities to reduce pesticide use. The IPM Strategy required the development of a "Zone System" tied to the IPM Approved Materials List to limit pesticide use based on potential human exposure.

The PHAER Zone model assigns Green, Yellow, or Red/Special Circumstances Zone designations to sites, or portions of sites, based upon the potential for exposure by humans and sensitive habitat to hazardous pesticides and allows use of carefully screened materials by zone designation. For example, Green Zones are areas of high

human exposure potential and only pesticides designated as “Green”, which show very limited human and environmental impacts may be used. Yellow Zones are areas with moderate human or environmental hazard. Red/Special Circumstances Zones are areas where high hazard pesticides for highly challenging pest management problems are needed to control pests. Overall, the Zone Model provides for incremental and measurable expansion of risk-reduction efforts, along with communicating clearly to the public the general potential for pesticide exposure.

The IPM 2013 Annual Report (Attachment 1) addresses the following:

- Types of pest problems encountered by each department
- Types and quantities of pesticides used by each department
- Exemptions currently in place and granted the past year
- Alternative pest management practices
- Effectiveness of alternative practices
- Proposed changes to pest management practices

### IPM 2013 Program Highlights

The use of Green materials increased from 1,121 units in 2012 to 2,339 units in 2013. The use of Yellow materials increased from 779 units to 1,159 units. The use of Red materials increased from 15 units to 28 units. The increase of Red material occurred at the Santa Barbara Golf Club greens to control fungus diseases. Overall pesticide use increased from 1,915 units to 3,525 units. The majority of the overall increase is due to increased mosquito control at the Airport. The control of mosquitoes accounted for 96% of all the pesticide units used City-wide in 2013. Of the pesticide units used City-wide to control mosquitoes, 66% are Green category materials.

The table below is a summary of pesticide use for 2013, including any increase or decrease in material use from 2012. It is important to note that because pesticide use will vary from year to year, an increase or decrease from the previous year does not necessarily indicate a long-term trend. Many factors affect the amount of pesticides applied in any one year.

Department / Division	Material Use				Change from 2012
	Green	Yellow	Red	Total	
Airport Department	2,049.07	1,123.78	0.00	3,172.85	Up 192%
Golf Division	0.99	0.53	27.67	29.19	Up 125%
Parks Division	0.15	24.05	0.00	24.20	Down 21%
Public Works Department	288.57	10.29	0.00	298.86	Down 62%
<b>City-Wide Total</b>	<b>2,338.78</b>	<b>1,158.65</b>	<b>27.67</b>	<b>3,525.10</b>	<b>Up 84%</b>

### **IPM Advisory Committee Recommendation**

At a special meeting held March 13, 2014, the IPM Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the IPM 2013 Annual Report and recommended that the report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Airport Commission, and City Council for review and approval. A memo from Greg Chittick, Chair, on behalf of the IPM Advisory Committee is attached (Attachment 2).

On March 26, 2014, the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously voted to accept the IPM 2013 Annual Report and forward the report to City Council.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

Under the City's sustainability program, the City's goals of Source Reduction and Toxics Reduction are met through the IPM Program. The Parks and Recreation Department uses recycler mowers to reduce green waste and reduce the need for fertilizer. Additionally, all City staff continues to use IPM methods at City parks and facilities in lieu of pesticide use.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. IPM 2013 Annual Report
2. Memo from IPM Advisory Committee

**PREPARED BY:** Santos Escobar, Parks Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

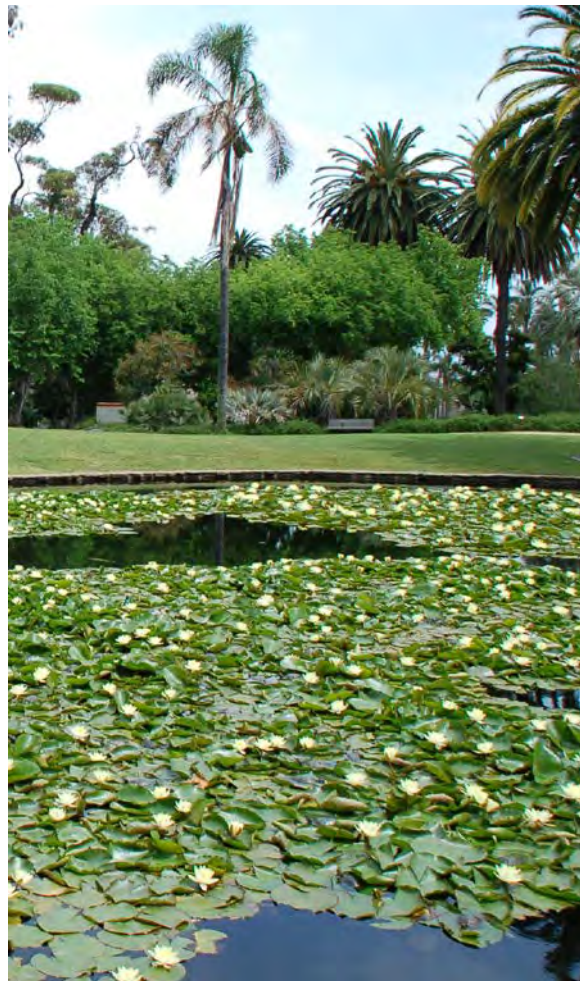
**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office



**City of Santa Barbara  
Integrated Pest Management Strategy**

**DRAFT 2013 Annual Report**

**Prepared March 2014**



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[www.santabarbaraca.gov](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov)

[http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/Community/Parks\\_and\\_Beaches/Integrated\\_Pest\\_Management.htm](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/Community/Parks_and_Beaches/Integrated_Pest_Management.htm)



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## **I. BACKGROUND**

In January 2004, the City of Santa Barbara (City) adopted a City-wide Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy. The City's IPM Strategy was developed to help reduce pesticide hazards on City property and promote effective pest management. The IPM Strategy required the development of a "Zone System" tied to the IPM Approved Materials List to limit pesticide use based on potential human exposure. In February 2006, the City Council approved the PHAER Zone system to be incorporated into the IPM Strategy.

The PHAER Zone system assigns Green, Yellow, or a Special Circumstance/Red Zone designation to sites, or portions of sites, based upon the potential for exposure by humans and sensitive habitat to hazardous pesticides, and allows use of carefully screened materials by zone designation. For example, Green Zones are areas of high exposure potential, and only pesticides designated as "Green", which show very limited human and environmental impacts, may be used. Yellow Zones are areas with less potential for harm from exposure, and a broader range of "Yellow" materials are permitted under the PHAER Zone system.

### **2013 Annual Report**

The IPM Strategy requires preparation of an Annual Report. The 2013 Annual Report addresses each of the following areas:

- Types of pest problems that each Department has encountered
- Types and quantities of pesticides used by each Department
- Exemptions currently in place and granted during the past year
- Alternatives currently used for phased out pesticides
- Alternatives proposed for adoption within the next 12 months
- Effectiveness of any changes in practices implemented
- Planned changes to pest management practices

This is the eleventh Annual Report for the program.



## **Citizen and Staff IPM Advisory Committees**

City Council established the Citizen IPM Advisory Committee by Resolution No. 06-008. Committee members are appointed by the Parks and Recreation Commission to serve two-year terms. The purpose of the Committee is to review and advise on the implementation of the City's Integrated Pest Management Strategy.

In 2013, the Citizen IPM Advisory Committee met twice to discuss and act on IPM policies and practices. The 2013 Citizen IPM Advisory Committee included the following representatives:

- Greg Chittick, Community at large
- Larry Saltzman, Pesticide Awareness and Alternative Coalition
- Kristen LaBonte, Community at large

The Staff IPM Committee, consisting of Department IPM Coordinators, continued to work effectively with the Citizen IPM Advisory Committee to administer the IPM Strategy and oversee pest management practices.

Department IPM Coordinators are representatives appointed by Department Directors to serve on the Staff IPM Committee. Department representatives: Jeff McKee from the Airport, Sue Gray from Community Development, Joe Poire from Fire, James Dewey from Public Works, Judd Conley from the Waterfront, and Santos Escobar from Parks and Recreation.

The Parks and Recreation Department coordinates both the Citizen and Staff IPM Committees and oversees the implementation of the City's IPM Program.

## **Citizen IPM Advisory Committee Actions**

The Citizen IPM Advisory Committee met twice in 2013, to review 22 requests for exemptions, consult with staff on current pest issues and IPM practices, and approve the 2012 IPM Report. In 2013, there were no IPM Advisory Committee dissensions. All exemptions were approved unanimously

## II. 2013 PROGRAM SUMMARY

Overall pesticide use increased from 1,915 in units in 2012 to 3,525 units in 2013. The use of Green materials increased from 1,121 units in to 2,339 units. The use of Yellow materials increased from 779 units to 1,159 units. The use of Red materials increased from 15 units to 28 units. The majority of the overall increase is due to increased mosquito control at the Airport. The control of mosquitoes accounted for 96% of all the pesticide units used City-wide in 2013. Of the pesticide units used City-wide to control mosquitoes, 66% are Green category materials.

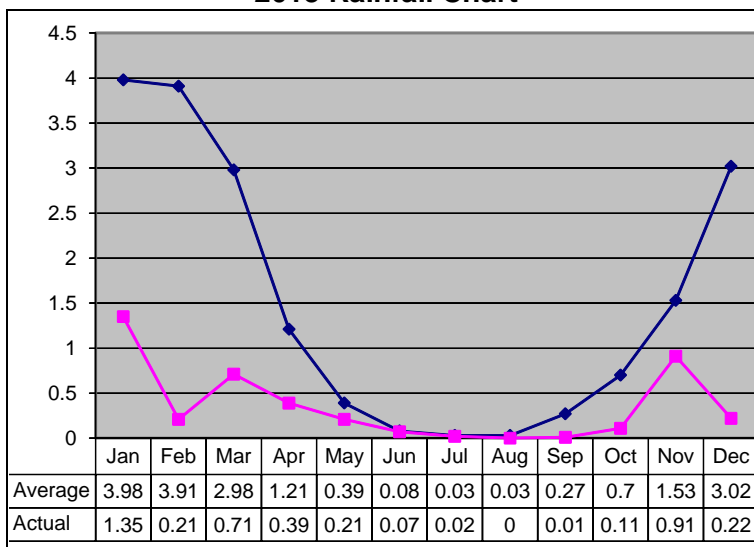
The table below is a summary of pesticide use for 2013, including any increase or decrease in material use from 2012. It is important to note that because pesticide use will vary from year to year, an increase or decrease from the previous year does not necessarily indicate a long-term trend. Many factors affect the amount of pesticides applied in any one year.

Department / Division	Material Use				Change from 2012
	Green	Yellow	Red	Total	
Airport Department	2049.07	1123.78	0.00	3172.85	Up 192%
Golf Division	0.99	0.53	27.67	29.19	Up 125%
Parks Division	0.15	24.05	0.00	24.20	Down 21%
Public Works Department	288.57	10.29	0.00	298.86	Down 62%
<b>City-Wide Total</b>	<b>2338.78</b>	<b>1158.65</b>	<b>27.67</b>	<b>3525.10</b>	<b>Up 84%</b>

One of the main factors that determine pest populations is rainfall. The more rain an area receives in a year, the greater the population of insects and weeds.

The graph below shows the rainfall activity for the 2013 calendar year. The total rainfall was 4.2 inches, substantially less than the 2012 rainfall of 13.8 inches. Although reduced rain, especially in spring, reduces the mosquito breeding cycle and the need for pesticides used in mosquito control, the Airport Department experienced a significant increase in mosquito populations due to the closure of the Goleta Slough to the ocean. Higher water levels in the slough and Airport creeks created additional breeding grounds for mosquitoes. This required the Airport Department to use more materials to control mosquitoes.

**2013 Rainfall Chart**



### III. PEST PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

A variety of pests were encountered on City properties in 2013 as outlined in the table below. Departments ranked their top three pest problems with the numbers 1, 2 and 3. Other pest problems encountered are checked (✓). Footnote annotations reference additional information.

**Pest Problems Encountered Table**

		Airport	Creeks	Golf	Parks	Parking	Public Works	Waterfront
Plant pests	Giant whitefly	✓			✓	✓	✓	
	Misc. plant insects			✓	✓ <sup>3</sup>	3	✓	
	Disease	✓		1 <sup>1</sup>	✓ <sup>4</sup>	✓		
Specimen Tree Pests	Oak Worm				✓	2	✓	
	Psyllids				✓			
Weeds	Invasives	✓	✓	3 <sup>2</sup>	1 <sup>5</sup>			
	General weeds	3	✓	✓	1	1	✓	3
	Perennial grasses	✓	✓	✓	1 <sup>6</sup>		✓	✓
Vertebrates	Gopher	2	✓	2	2		✓	✓
	Ground Squirrel	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Gulls/ nuisance birds	✓		✓	✓	✓		2
	Moles			✓	✓			
	Raccoons	✓		✓				
	Skunks	✓		✓				
Human Health	Poison Oak	✓			✓			
	Bees, yellow jackets, etc.	✓		✓	3	✓	2	
	Rats/ mice	✓		✓	✓	✓	3	1
	Mosquitoes	1		✓	✓		1	
Other	Termites	✓					✓	
	Roaches						✓	
	Pigeons	✓				✓	✓	
	Crows	✓		✓				
	Ants	✓				✓	✓	

1. Golf reported these plant diseases (fungus): Dollar Spot, Pink Snow Mold, Anthracnose, and Yellow Patch.
2. Golf reported this invasive weed: Clover.
3. Parks reported these plant insects: Lerp Psyllids, Mites, Oak Moths, Thrips, Aphids, Snails, Slugs, and Ants.
4. Parks reported these plant diseases: Leaf Spot, Mildew, Blight, Pink Bud Rot, Sooty Mold, Pythium, Armillaria, and Phytothora.
5. Parks reported these invasive weeds: Arrundo, Nutgrass, Kikuyu Grass, Clover, Oxalis, Malva, Foxtail, Spurge, Dandelion, Milkweed, Sow Thistle, Poa annua, Puncture Vine, Johnson Grass, and Poison Oak.
6. Parks reported the following perennial grasses: Crab, and Bermuda.

## **IV. TOTAL PESTICIDE USE**

Data has been collected for City-wide pesticide application under the PHAER Zone model since 2006. This data is plotted in the graphs on subsequent pages. The graphs illustrate the various reductions and increases in pesticide use by each Department. A City-wide narrative is provided as well as one for each Department describing the particular pest issues faced this year, alternatives used, exemptions requested.

There are a number of factors that affect pesticide use. These include weather patterns (unseasonably dry or wet weather), introduction of new, or changes to existing pest populations, and changes in the effectiveness or availability of pesticide materials.

As the program continues into its twelfth year, the impact of reduced reliance on pesticides, particularly herbicides, is becoming noticeable in areas, such as the weed population at Alice Keck Park Memorial Gardens and other landscape areas throughout the City. Budget and staffing levels will continue to be a challenge. Financial constraints may require a change in service levels and aesthetic expectations or a greater reliance on more cost effective traditional pesticides. However, the City is committed to the use of Green materials, so it is likely that the overall units of pesticides applied will increase. Green materials generally require higher application levels than Red or Yellow pesticides. A rise in Green material use, even though it increases the over-all pesticide use in the City, will generally mean a reduction in the application of higher risk Yellow and Red materials.

## City-wide Pesticide Use

City-wide pesticide use increased in 2013, mainly due to the use of materials to manage mosquito populations at the Airport. Pesticides applied increased from 1,915 units in 2012 to 3,525 in 2013. The use of Green materials increased from 1,121 units to 2,339 units. The use of Yellow materials increased from 779 units to 1,159 units, and Red materials increased from 15 units to 28 units. The control of mosquitoes accounted for 97% of all the pesticide units used City-wide in 2013.

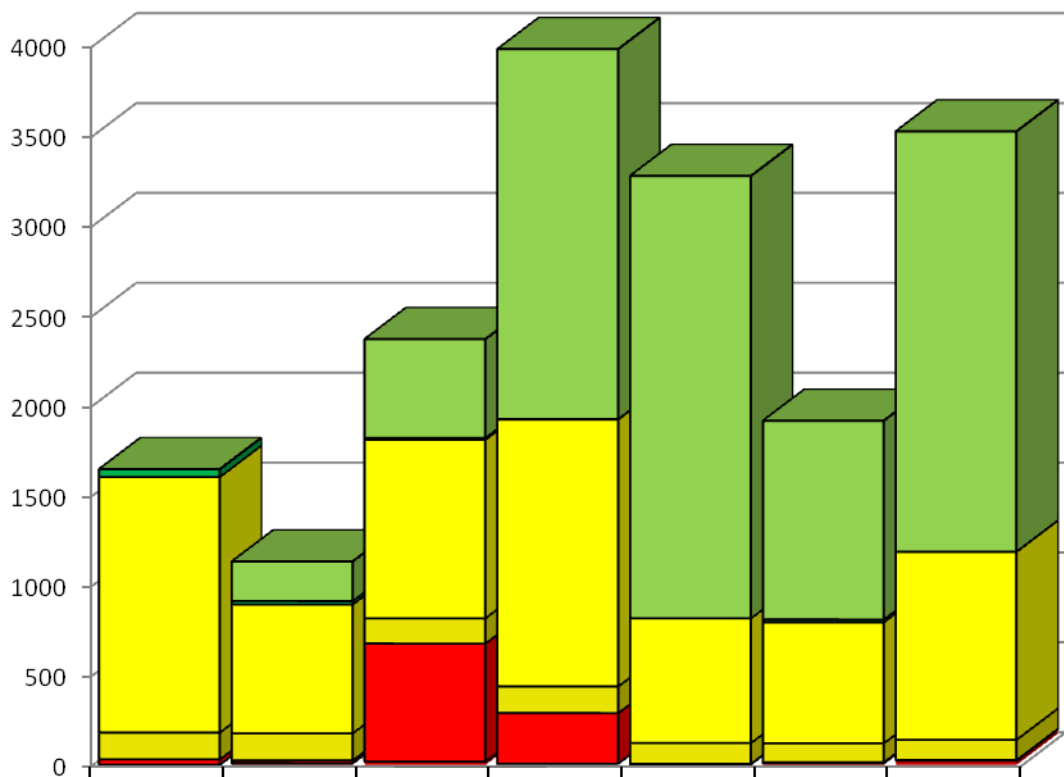
The table below provides a summary of the pesticides applied on City property in 2013. Pesticides are reported in either pounds or gallons depending on whether they are dry or liquid. The column labeled "Type" includes the type of pesticide applied: Insecticide, Fungicide, Herbicide, Molluscicide, and Rodenticide. The data used to generate the total overall pesticide use is based upon total units (gallons or pounds) of all materials.

City Departments who applied pesticides, or contracted with pesticide applicators, prepared monthly pesticide and alternative use reports, and participated in the preparation of this Annual Report. The monthly reports form the basis of the Annual Report and are available at the main offices of each Department.

**Total Pesticide Use Table**

Tier	Pesticide Name	Active Ingredient	Type	Amount of Pesticide Applied													
				Airport		Golf		Parks and Recreation		Public Works		Applications					
				Gallons	Pounds	Gallons	Pounds	Gallons	Pounds	Gallons	Pounds	Airport	Golf	Parks and Recreation	Public Works		
	Acelepryn	Chlorantraniliprole	Insecticide			0.25									1		
	EcoExempt	Clove Oil	Herbicide					0.12								1	
	Mpede	Potassium fatty acids	Insecticide					0.03								1	
	Natular XRT	Spinosad	Larvicide		1.9									5			
	Primo Maxx	Trinexapac-ethyl	Regulator			0.74									10		
	Tim-Bor	Borate	Insecticide							1.25							2
	Vectobac G	Bti	Insecticide		1598.17					287.32			61				31
	VectoLex CG	B. sphaericus	Insecticide		449								8				
	<b>Green Totals</b>			0	2049.07	0.99	0	0.15	0	0	288.57	74	11	2	33		
	Advion Gel	Indoxacarb	Insecticide	0.004						0.08		4					7
	Advion Granuals	Indoxacarb	Insecticide								7						6
	Altosid 30 day pellets	Methoprene	Insecticide		0.30							2					
	Altosid XR-B	Methoprene	Insecticide		1,038.10							9					
	Arilon	Indoxacarb	Insecticide							0.16							2
	Polaris	Imazapyr	Herbicide					3.5									1
	Rose Defense	Neem Oil	Insecticide							3							4
	Round Up Custom	Glyphosate	Herbicide					7.35									13
	Round-up Pro Max	Glyphosate	Herbicide	40.375		0.25		13.2				10	1				31
	Surflan	Oryzalin	Herbicide	45								6					
	Termidor SC	Fipronil	Insecticide							0.05							6
	Trimmit 2SC	Paclobutrazol	Regulator			0.28									1		
	<b>Yellow Totals</b>			85.379	1038.4	0.53	0	24.05	0	3.13	7.16	31	2	49	21		
	3336 Cleary's	Thiophanate-methyl	Fungicide			4									1		
	Banner-maxx	Propiconazole	Fungicide			3.68									6		
	Daconil	Chlorothalonil	Fungicide			14.24									5		
	Heritage	Azoxystrobin	Fungicide			2.68									4		
	Medallion	Fludioxonil	Fungicide			3.07									2		
	<b>Red Totals</b>			0	0	24.6	3.07	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0		
	<b>Department Totals</b>			85.379	3087.47	26.12	3.07	24.2	0	3.13	295.73	105	31	51	54		
<b>City-wide Totals:</b>				<b>Gallons 138.829</b>		<b>Pounds 3,386.270</b>				<b>Applications 241</b>							

## City-wide Pesticide Use



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Green Pounds	0.5	220	549.5	2058.2	2461.1	1105.3	2,337.64
Green Gallons	42.9	19	10	2.2	0.28	15.7	1.14
Yellow Pounds	1421.9	717.1	993.4	1485.3	693.6	673.6	1,045.56
Yellow Gallons	149	150.4	140.5	148.1	115.2	105.5	113.09
Red Pounds	30.5	16.2	656.3	281.9	3	4.6	3.07
Red Gallons	1.2	9.2	19.7	7.3	4	10.4	24.6

## Parks Division Pesticide Use

Pesticide use by the Parks Division increased in 2013. The Parks Division decreased its use of Green materials from 16 units to 0.15 units due to their ineffectiveness to address weed problems. There was an increase in Yellow materials from 15 units to 24 units due to increased weed control efforts for invasives in open space areas. No Red materials were used this year.

## Alternatives Used

The Parks Division performed 7,998 hours of alternative pest management. The Parks Division used a weed flamer on sidewalk cracks and rocky areas as well as applied 567 yards of mulch and 70 yards of biosolids in planter areas and turf. As in previous years, the majority of hours were spent hand-weeding and hoeing, as well as mechanical weeding with power equipment. Weed whips and sod cutting are effective methods for removing rhizomes. Weed levels continue to be a challenge; weeds have both an aesthetic impact, as well as an ecological impact by harboring and spreading pests and disease.

Various other alternatives were practiced in 2013, including trapping for mice, rats, and squirrels and the continued use of worm castings and the beneficial fungus mycorrhizae. The Parks Division also continues to search for alternative herbicides in hopes of finding effective products.

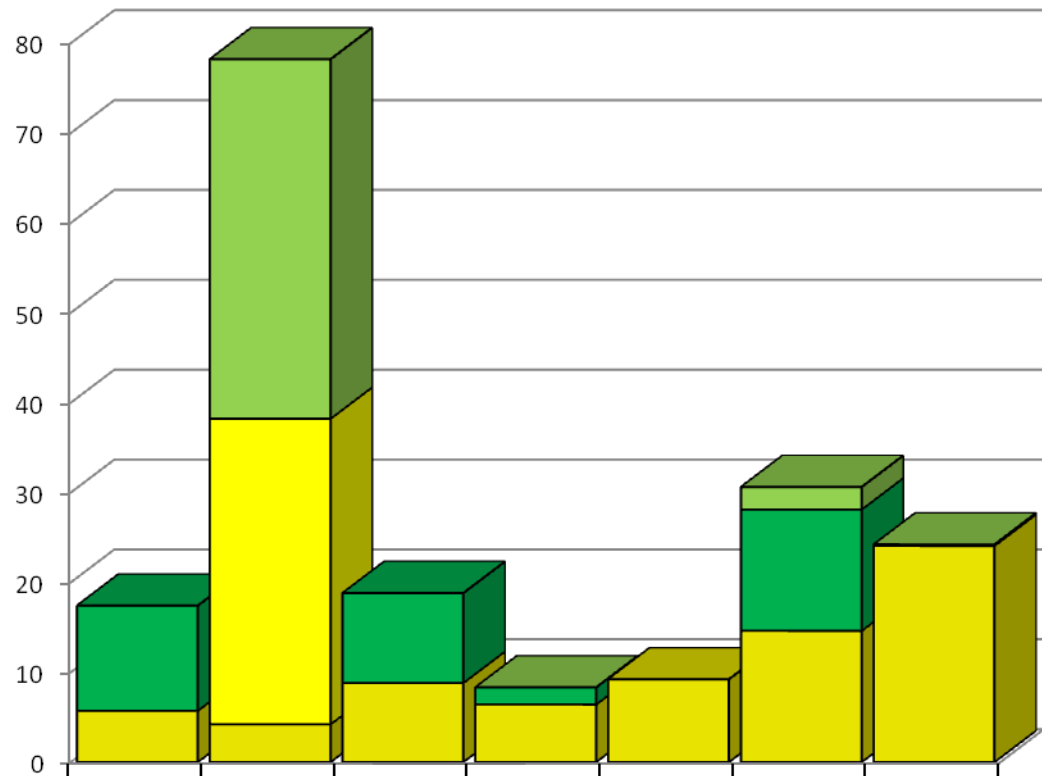
Gopher and mole activity continued to be high. The Parks Division significantly increased gopher trapping activities to try and minimize damage to the turf and planter areas that are affected. Gopher holes and mounds create safety issues, particularly in turf areas and sports fields.

## Exemptions

The Parks Division applied for four exemptions. Three exemption requests were made for the use of Glyphosate at Parma Park to eradicate invasive weeds. These exemptions were granted and used successfully. An exemption was requested for the use of Diphacinone at Shoreline, Leadbetter, and Chase Palm Parks for the control of squirrels. This exemption was granted but not used, because the squirrel population was successfully controlled through trapping.

Green Parks		
ALAMEDA PARK	HALE PARK	PARQUE DE LOS NINOS
ALICE KECK PARK MEMORIAL GARDENS	HIDDEN VALLEY PARK	PILGRIM TERRACE
AMBASSADOR PARK	HILDA RAY PARK	PLAZA DEL MAR
ANDRÉE CLARK BIRD REFUGE	HONDA VALLEY	PLAZA VERA CRUZ
BOHNETT PARK	LA MESA PARK	RANCHERIA COMMUNITY GARDENS
CHASE PALM PARK	LAUREL CANYON	RATTLESNAKE CANYON
CITY HALL / DE LA GUERRA / STORKE PLACITA	LEADBETTER BEACH	SHORELINE PARK
DOUGLAS FAMILY PRESERVE	LOS ROBLES PARK	SKOFIELD PARK
EAST BEACH PARK	MESA LANE STEPS	STEVENS PARK
EASTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	MORETON BAY FIG TREE	SUNFLOWER PARK
EQUESTRIAN CIRCLE	OAK PARK	THOUSAND STEPS
ESCONDIDO PARK	ORTEGA PARK	WEST BEACH
GOULD PARK / COLD SPRINGS TRAIL	PARMA PARK	WILLOWGLEN PARK
Parks with Yellow Zones		
A.C. POSTEL MEMORIAL ROSE GARDEN	FRANCESCHI PARK LOWER	ORPET PARK
CABRILLO BALL PARK	HIDDEN VALLEY PARK OPEN SPACE	PERSHING PARK
DWIGHT MURPHY PARK	MAC KENZIE PARK	SAN ROQUE PARK
FRANCESCHI PARK	MISSION HISTORICAL PARK & A.C.P. ROSE GDN	SYLVAN PARK

## Parks Division Pesticide Use



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Green Pounds	0	40	0	0	0	2.5	0
Green Gallons	11.7	0	10	1.9	0	13.5	0.15
Yellow Pounds	0	34	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow Gallons	5.7	4.2	8.8	6.4	9.2	14.6	24.05
Red Pounds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red Gallons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



## **Golf Division Pesticide Use**

The Golf Division increased its material use from 13 units in 2012 to 29 units in 2013. Although there was an increase in Red materials from 8 units to 28 units, there was a decrease in Yellow materials from 3 units to 0.5 units and a decrease in Green Materials from 2 to 1. Due to a drier than normal winter, the Golf Division relied on a series of fungicide applications to control several outbreaks of Dollar Spot and Fusarium patch in the spring. Due to hot and humid summer, the Golf Division relied on a series of fungicide applications to control several outbreaks of Antracnose, Dollar Spot and Summer Patch on the greens. Some of these diseases stayed through the fall without any rain to leach the greens. There was an increase in turf diseases leading to an increase in Red materials used. However, the Golf Division continues to implement alternative agronomic methods to control diseases and limit pesticide use. Unfortunately, extreme environmental conditions created disease outbreaks that can only be controlled with fungicides

## **Alternatives Used**

The Golf Division worked with County of Santa Barbara's Workforce Youth Program to give youths an opportunity to acquire hands on working skills that could help them in the future. The Golf Division received five youths who each worked 168 hours over the summer. The youths were certified on the use of weed eaters and edgers, and most of their hours were worked on weed eating around trees and fence lines. The Golf Division was able to reduce its use of Yellow materials. The Golf Division is looking forward to working with the youth program again this summer.

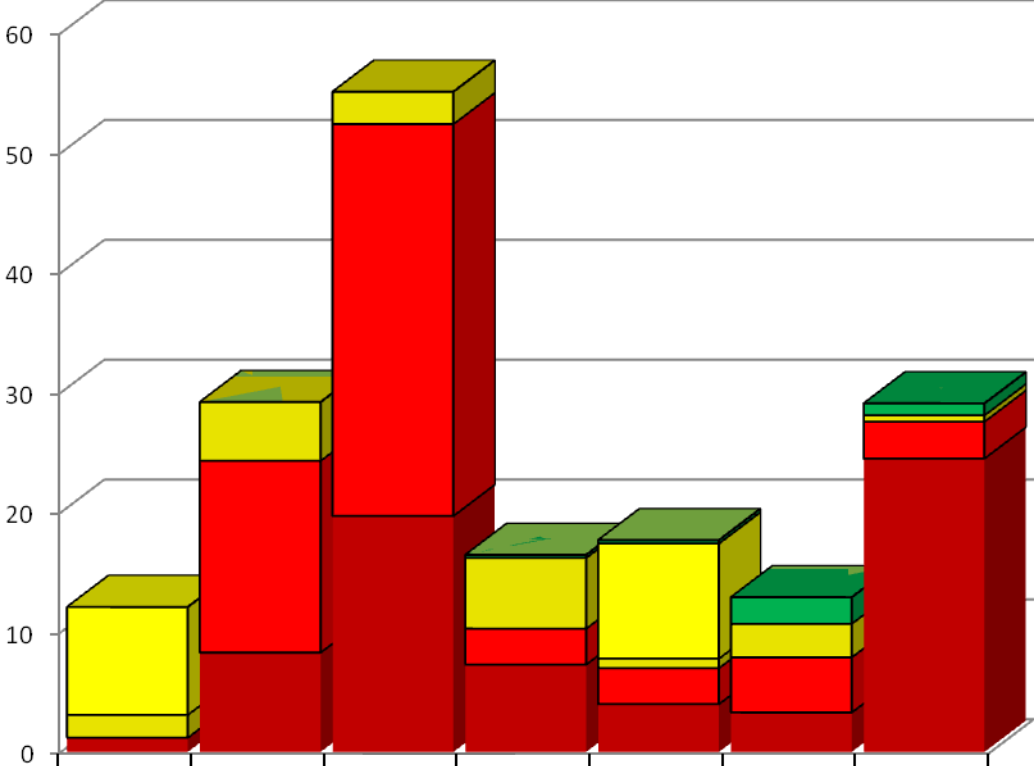
Green materials use decreased from 2 units to .37 units by double mowing more frequently. The Golf Division used the Green insecticide Acelepyryn for grub control on the greens.

The Golf Division continues to implement "Old World" agronomy to establish finer leaf turfgrasses. Areas of the putting surfaces that have been damaged from disease are routinely "spiked" and seeded with disease resistant bentgrass seed. These techniques coupled with the use of seaweed and compost tea help reduce the need for chemical inputs.

## **Exemptions**

The Golf Division applied for and received ten exemptions. The exemptions were for the fungicides Banner-Maxx, Daconil, Heritage, Medallion, Prostar, and Affirm; the insecticide Acelepyryn and the herbicide/growth regulator Proxy, Primo Maxx and Trimmit. All of the exemptions targeted the diseases present on the greens. The exemptions for Prostar, Proxy, and Affirm were not used.

### Golf Division Pesticide Use



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Green Pounds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Green Gallons	0	0	0	0.25	0.28	2.21	0.99
Yellow Pounds	9	0	0	0	9.6	0	0
Yellow Gallons	1.9	4.9	2.7	5.9	0.8	2.8	0.53
Red Pounds	0	16	32.7	3	3	4.6	3.07
Red Gallons	1.2	8.3	19.7	7.3	4	3.3	24.5

## **Airport Department Pesticide Use**

The Airport Department increased its pesticide use in 2013 with pesticide applications concentrated on mosquitoes and weeds. Green material usage increased from 346 units in 2012 to 2,049 units in 2013. Over the same time period, Yellow materials increased from 739 units to 1,124 units. Increases were due to increased need for mosquito control in the Goleta Slough. No Red materials were used in 2013.

### **Mosquitoes**

During the spring of 2013, the mouth of the Goleta Slough closed due to the natural movement of sand. In prior years, the mouth of the Slough was opened mechanically by the County Flood Control District to facilitate drainage. As a result of the Slough mouth being closed, brackish waters impounded, creating a breeding ground for mosquitoes. The Airport Department made multiple applications of large quantities of both Green and Yellow materials to control mosquito populations. The Airport Department is currently developing a plan to secure permission to open the slough in future years.

In 2013, the Mosquito and Vector Management District applied 1,038 lbs of Altosid, 2,047 lbs of Vectobac G and Vectolex CG, and 2 lbs of Natular on the Airport's behalf, to control mosquitoes in the Goleta Slough.

### **Weeds**

In addition to the extensive manual weed control program at the Airport, staff used the Yellow products Roundup ProMax and Surflan AS to maintain the airfield as needed for safe aircraft operations and to protect infrastructure. Herbicides were used to prevent weeds from obscuring airfield lights and signs, and to prevent weeds from deteriorating airfield assets. The Airport's landscape contractor also used Roundup ProMax to control weeds in the traffic islands on Hollister Avenue.

### **Rodents**

Rodents on the airfield attract predators that pose a collision hazard for aircraft. Rodents also create a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) compliance issue by undermining and creating uneven surfaces in runway safety areas. The Airport Department is required by the FAA to maintain safety areas in a smooth, compact condition. There was no chemical rodent control at the Airport in 2013, but an application of Fumitoxin will likely be needed in 2014 to address increasing populations of gophers. Rodents, including gophers, mice and rats outside the airfield fence were controlled using mechanical steel traps.

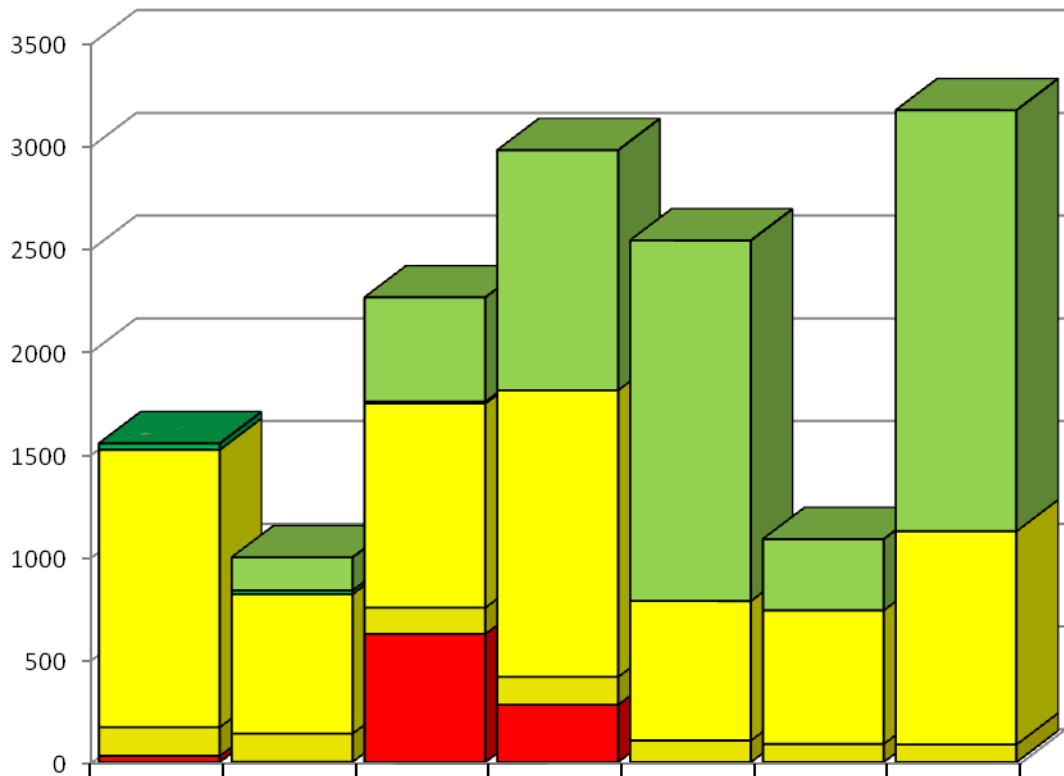
### **Alternatives Used**

Alternative efforts focused on the control of weeds with 1,168 hours devoted to mechanical control. Airport staff and contract staff also devoted 117 hours to mechanical control of gophers, mice and rats.

Of the materials the Airport Department used for mosquito control, 33% were Green materials.

During the year the Airport Department used a beekeeper to remove multiple swarms of bees from the Airport. At no time during 2013 was the Airport Department forced to use pesticides to control bees.

## Airport Pesticide Use



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Green Pounds	0	160	507	1,168.90	1,755.10	346.3	2,049.07
Green Gallons	31.2	19	9.9	0	0	0	0
Yellow Pounds	1,349.90	678.6	993.4	1,395.20	678.8	650.6	1,038.40
Yellow Gallons	140	137.8	128	135.6	105.1	87.9	85.379
Red Pounds	30	0	623.6	278.9	0	0	0
Red Gallons	0	0.75	0	0	0	0	0

## **Public Works Department Pesticide Use**

The Public Works Department is comprised of a number of Divisions. This report addresses pesticide use and IPM strategies for the Parking section of the Transportation Division, Vector Control, Streets section of the Transportation Division, and Facilities Maintenance Division.

The Public Works Department decreased its use of pesticides from 787 in 2012 to 299 in 2013. Green materials decreased from 757 units to 289 units. Yellow materials decreased from 23 units to 10 units. Red material use decreased from 7 to zero units.

### **Alternatives Used**

The Downtown Parking section did not use any pesticides in 2013 and continued to use alternative methods for weed control including hand-weeding and weed whipping. Weed abatement continued to require a large amount of time and effort using non-chemical methods. Alternative practices for pest management included plant replacement, worm castings, and washing off insects with water pressure.

Vector Control utilized mechanical traps instead of rodenticide for rodent abatement. The program for 2013 consisted of 105 mechanical trap stations on State Street and 10 on Coast Village Road. The number of rodents caught by mechanical traps on State Street and Coast Village Road totaled 1,117. Alternative use hours for this effort totaled 278.

Vector Control used the Green material Vecto Bac G for the control of mosquitoes. With so little rain in 2013 there were fewer areas of pooled water and a lower water level in the Andrée Clark Bird Refuge. This resulted in the reduced use of mosquito control materials.

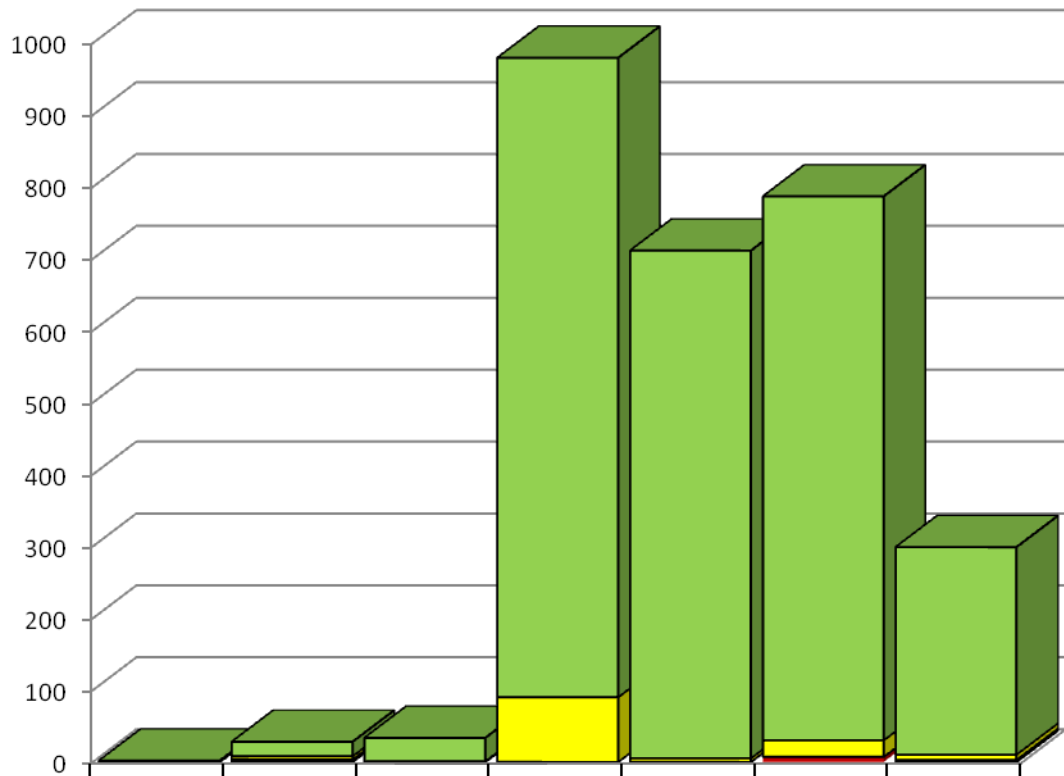
For bee abatement, a beekeeper is utilized. A total of 40 hives were relocated in 2013.

The Facilities Maintenance Division utilized mechanical traps instead of rodenticide for rodent abatement inside City facilities. The number of rodents caught by mechanical traps at City facilities was 1,116. Alternative use hours for this effort were 342.

### **Exemptions:**

The Facilities Maintenance Division was granted six exemptions for 2013. Four were for the Yellow insecticides Advion, Arilon, Termidor, and Timbor for the control of ants and termites in buildings. These exemptions were used successfully. Two exemptions were for the Yellow herbicides Round-Up Pro Max and Surflan for the control of weeds in street medians. These exemptions were not used.

## Public Works Pesticide Use



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Green Pounds	0.5	20	32.5	889.3	706	756.5	288.57
Green Gallons	0	0.01	0.1	0.1	0	0	0
Yellow Pounds	0	4.5	0	90	5.2	23	7.16
Yellow Gallons	1.4	3.4	1	0.065	0.09	0.13	3.13
Red Pounds	0	0.14	0	0	0	0	0
Red Gallons	0	0.08	0	0	0	7.1	0

## V. EXEMPTIONS

Under the IPM Strategy and PHAER Zone system, exemptions may be granted when a pest outbreak poses an immediate threat to public health, employee safety, or will result in significant economic or environmental damage. Exemptions may be requested for one-time application or as a programmatic exemption for a single year. The exemption process is outlined in the IPM Strategy.

- Twenty-two exemptions were requested from the IPM Committee in 2013 as summarized in the table to the right and listed in the table below.
- Of the twenty-two requests approved, six were not implemented.

**2013 Exemption Summary**

Exemptions	Creeks	Facilities	Golf	Parks	Streets	Totals
<b>Emergency</b>						
<b>Proposed</b>	2	4	10	4	2	22
<b>Passed</b>	2	4	10	4	2	22
<b>Denied</b>						
<b>Applied</b>	2	4	7	3		16
<b>Not Applied</b>			3	1	2	6

**Exemption Detail Table**

Vote	Dept. / Div.	Material	Type	Type	Exemption Type	Used	Site
Passed	Creeks	Round-Up Pro Max	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Hidden Valley Open Space
Passed	Creeks	Polaris	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Hidden Valley Open Space
Passed	Facilities	Termidor	Insecticide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Buildings
Passed	Facilities	Timbor	Insecticide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Buildings
Passed	Facilities	Advion	Insecticide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Buildings
Passed	Facilities	Arilon	Insecticide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Buildings
Passed	Golf	Heritage	Fungicide	Red	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Trimmit	Regulator	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Primo Maxx	Regulator	Green	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Acelepryn	Fungicide	Green	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Medallion	Fungicide	Red	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Daconil	Fungicide	Red	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Affirm	Fungicide	Yellow	Programatic	No	Greens
Passed	Golf	Banner-Maxx	Fungicide	Red	Programatic	Yes	Greens
Passed	Golf	Prostar	Fungicide	Yellow	Programatic	No	Greens
Passed	Golf	Proxy	Regulator	Green	Programatic	No	Greens
Passed	Parks	Round-Up Pro Max	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Parma Park
Passed	Parks	Round-Up Custom	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Parma Park
Passed	Parks	Round-Up Pro Max	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	Yes	Parma Park
Passed	Parks	Diphacinone	Rodenticide	Yellow	Programatic	No	Shoreline, Leadbetter, Chase Palm, MacKenzie Parks
Passed	Streets	Round-Up Pro Max	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	No	Medians
Passed	Streets	Surflan	Herbicide	Yellow	Programatic	No	Medians

**Comparison of Exemptions for 2012 and 2013**

	2012	2013
Number of Exemption Requests	15	22
Number of Exemption Requests Approved	15	22
Number of Approved Exemption Requests Applied	10	16
Number of Approved Exemption Requests Not Applied	5	6

## VI. ALTERNATIVE PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES USED IN 2013

Non-chemical pest management alternatives used in 2013 are reviewed in the table below. The use of non-chemical IPM alternatives was emphasized over pesticide applications. Hours reported for the total year are from the *Monthly Alternative Use Reports* prepared by each Department. A check (✓) indicates the alternative was used, but time was not tracked for it. The total tracked hours for City-wide alternative practices increased from 9,713 in 2012 to 10,485 in 2013.

PEST	Alternative	Airport	Golf	Public Works	Parks	Citywide Hours
WEEDS	Mulch & wood chips	✓	✓	✓	342	342
	Weed fabric				✓	0
	Propane flame weeder				✓	0
	Hand weeding		640	181	2,154	2,975
	Weed whip	1,168	✓		3,990	5,158
	Habitat modification				✓	0
	Irrigation Mgmt.	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
	Sod Cutting				320	320
PLANT PESTS	Irrigation Mgmt.	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
	Compost tea/microbial in.		✓			0
	Enhance plant health		✓		✓	0
	Worm castings				✓	0
	Effective micro-organisms		✓			0
	Wash off plants				✓	0
	Remove plant/tree				✓	0
GOPHERS	Traps	95	✓	✓	650	745
SQUIRRELS	Traps		✓		121	121
RATS & MICE	Mechanical traps	22		620	✓	642
	Cat				✓	0
MOSQUITOES	Mosquito fish				✓	0
	Remove stagnant water				✓	0
BEES	Bee Keepers			165	✓	165
OTHER	Glue traps/roaches			18		18
	Heat Treatment			✓		0
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>1,284.5</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>983.5</b>	<b>7,577</b>	<b>10,485</b>



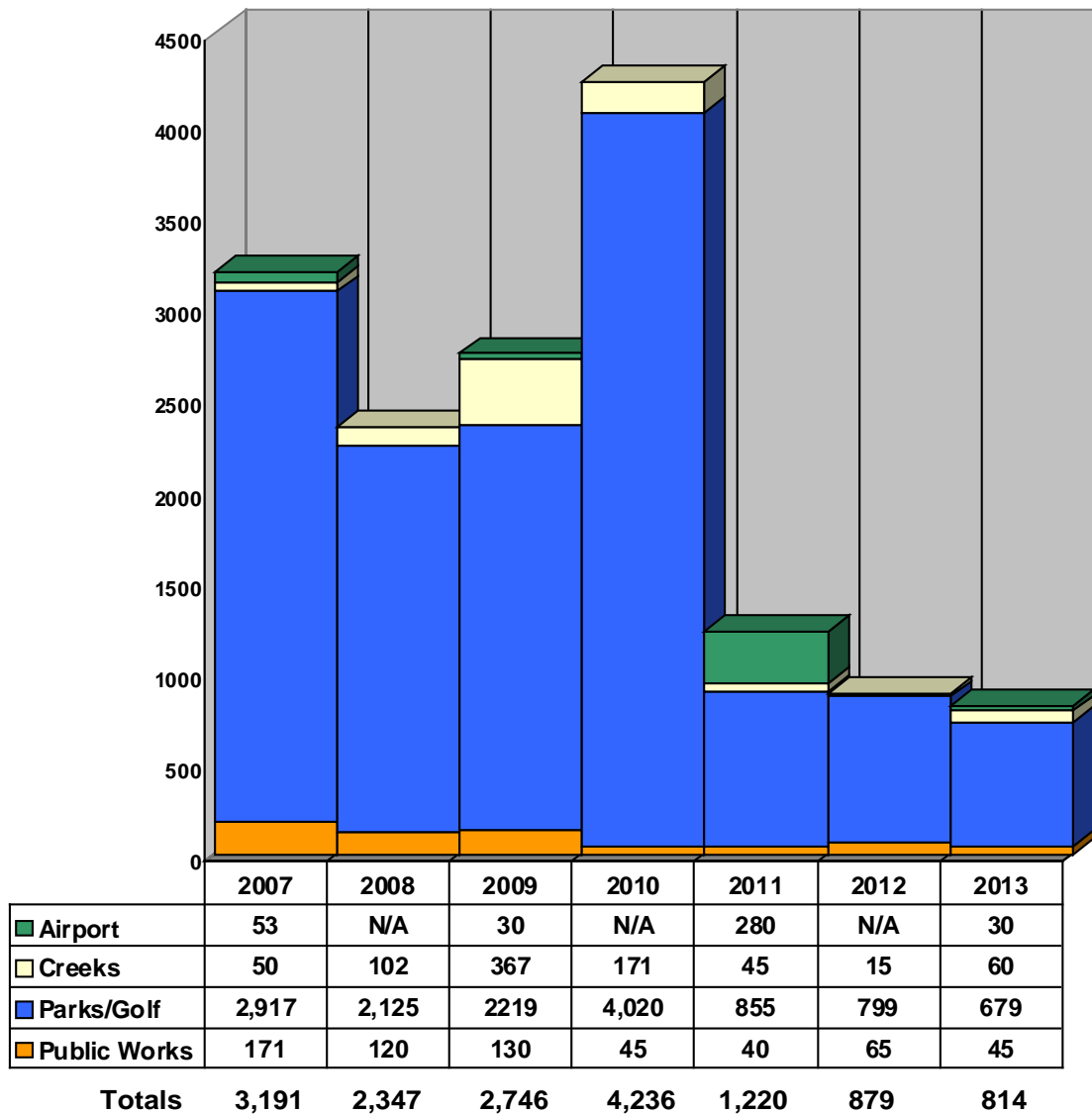
## Total Mulch Use

Mulch has been found to be effective in suppressing the growth of annual weeds. The table below shows the types of mulch applied for 2013.

**Mulch Use Table**

Yards of Mulch by Type	Creeks	Parks/Golf	Public Works	City Totals
Biosolids		70		<b>70</b>
Woodchips	60	609	45	<b>714</b>
<b>Total Yards</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>784</b>

**Mulch Use Comparison Chart**



## VII. EFFECTIVENESS OF ALTERNATIVE PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED

In general, most alternative pest management practices are more labor intensive and costly, and not as effective as the use of Yellow and Red classified pesticides. However, there are occasions when a Yellow or Red material is also not effective in controlling a pest problem. While most Green materials and practices provide only moderate control of pest populations, there have been some successes. The effectiveness of alternatives for the biggest pest problems encountered is reviewed below.

- **Weeds:** A variety of alternatives are used to provide moderate effectiveness and control including: weeding, weed whipping, mulching, mowing, and a flame torch in designated safe areas. These alternatives are significantly more labor and cost intensive and not as effective as Yellow materials. Alternative food grade or EPA exempt chemicals, such as clove oil or acid based herbicides, have not proven effective. This has resulted in a notable increase in weed populations, predominantly on parkland, that continues to have a negative effect on aesthetics and landscape health.
- **Insects / Mollusks:** Results are mixed for combating insects and mollusks. For some insects, there are no known effective alternatives. Some alternatives can be very effective but expensive, such as removing non-resistant plants and replacing them with resistant varieties. However, the following alternatives have proven successful against insects and mollusks:
  - Sluggo for snails and slugs
  - Worm castings for white fly
  - Insecticidal soap for aphids
  - Neem oil as a dormant spray
  - Bti for mosquitoes
  - Acelepryn for beetles
- **Disease:** No effective alternative has been found for most diseases. Where possible, staff focuses on preventative treatments to enhance plant health. Once disease strikes, a plant may be removed and replaced with a less susceptible plant. If a plant cannot be removed, pesticides are generally required to combat the disease.
- **Gophers:** For the most part, mechanical traps are being used City-wide. Traps have been found to be moderately effective and are more expensive than rodenticides due to higher costs of purchasing, installing, monitoring, and cleaning out traps.
- **Ground Squirrels:** Mechanical trapping, using snap traps, is the primary method of control at this time. This method is moderately effective at controlling populations. Both trapping and baiting have proven very labor intensive.
- **Mice / Rats:** At this time, traps are the primary way of controlling this population. Traps have been found to be effective depending on population size and location and available food sources. Positive public perception seems to far outweigh the costs of using traps. Traps have also shown themselves to be very effective in controlling rodents on downtown State Street and at Coast Village Road.
- **Termites:** Building Maintenance now uses heat treatments to control drywood termites where appropriate. Heat was found to be equally effective as pesticides on smaller buildings with drywood termites. However, costs are 50% higher at this time, and heat is not effective on large structures or with subterranean termites.

## VIII. PROPOSED CHANGES TO PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

### Alternative Practices Proposed for 2013

The upcoming year will pose similar challenges due to budgetary limitations, dry weather, and limited options for effective Green materials. This could lead to the need to use more traditional pest management practices. Departments will continue to seek “least toxic” alternatives that provide higher benefit to cost ratios. Departments will also continue to use alternatives found effective in the past ten years unless more cost-effective alternatives are found. Departments propose the following for 2013:

- The Parks Division will continue to implement the PHAER Zone system of Integrated Pest Management and continue seeking out training and collaborative opportunities with other agencies and IPM professionals. Parks will continue experimenting with sheet mulching to control weeds.
- The Golf Division will continue to experiment with new Green materials as they come forward.
- In the coming year, the Airport Department will again seek exemptions for fumitoxin to control rodents on the airfield, and a product to treat drywood termites in Airport buildings. In addition, the Airport Department may request an exemption for application of Roundup, in a PHAER green zone, to remove existing turf as part of a project to install drought tolerant landscape. Alternative effort hours are expected to remain static.

## **IX. CONCLUSION**

Overall, the City increased its use of pesticides in 2013. There was an increase in Green materials of 109%, due primarily to mosquito control at the Airport. An increase in Green materials, while adding to the overall pesticide use City-wide, is generally a desirable trend as it shows the selection of Green materials over Yellow or Red materials. There was an increase in Yellow materials of 48%. Red materials rose by 85% primarily due to an unusually warm year, prompting fungus outbreaks at the Golf Course.

It will continue to be important for City staff to find cost effective, low risk, viable alternatives so that pesticide hazards may be reduced further and the overall efficiency of IPM practices may increase. Additionally, changes in maintenance standards and expectations will remain without either increased resources or more effective least toxic materials.

Also critical to reducing pesticide hazards in the City of Santa Barbara is the continuation of community outreach and public education. Because of this community outreach, the public will become more aware of the City's greater reliance upon low risk IPM alternatives.

## X. ATTACHMENTS

### ATTACHMENT A: APPROVED MATERIALS LIST

The pesticides listed on the Approved Materials List are categorized according to the pesticide screening protocol in the PHAER Zone system.

Product Name	Active Ingredient	ZONE	Type
Acelepryn	Chlorantraniliprole	Green	Insecticide
Advance Ant Bait	Orthoboric Acid	Green	Insecticide
Advion Roach Stations (enclosed)	Indoxacarb	Green*	Insecticide
AllDown	citric acid, acetic acid, garlic	Green	Herbicide
<i>Any brand name</i>	Orthoboric Acid ant bait station	Green	Insecticide
Avert Cockroach Bait Station	Abamectin B1 0.05%	Green	Insecticide
Avert Cockroach Gel Bait	Abamectin B1 0.05%	Green	Insecticide
Bactimos Pellets	Bt	Green	Insecticide
Bactimos Wettable	Bt	Green	Insecticide
Bio-Weed	corn gluten	Green	Herbicide
Borid Turbo	Orthoboric Acid	Green	Insecticide
BurnOut 2	clove oil	Green	Herbicide
Cease Biofungicide	B. subtilis	Green	Fungicide
Cinnamite	cinnamaldehyde	Green	Insect/Fung
Conserve	spinosad	Green	Insecticide
Dipel Flowable	Bt	Green	Insecticide
Drax Ant Kill PF	Orthoboric Acid	Green	Insecticide
EcoExempt	Wintergreen Oil	Green	Herbicide
EcoExempt D	2-Phenethyl propionate / Euginol	Green	Insecticide
Embark	mefluidide	Green	Growth Regulator
GreenErgy	Citric, Acetic Acid	Green	Herbicide
Kaligreen	potassium bicarbonate	Green	Fungicide
Matran (EPA Registration Exempt)	clove oil	Green	Herbicide
Natura Weed-A-Tak	clove oil	Green	Herbicide
Niban	Isoboric Acid 5%	Green	Insecticide
Safer Soap	potassium salts of fatty acids	Green	Insecticide
Sluggo	iron phosphate	Green	Other
Summit BTI Briquets	Bt	Green	Insecticide
Teknar HP-D	Bti	Green	Insecticide
Terro II	Orthoboric Acid	Green	Insecticide
Vectobac G	Btk	Green	Insecticide
VectoLex CG	bacillus sphaericus	Green	Insecticide
Victor Wasp and Hornet Killer	Mint Oil 8% & Sodium Lauryl	Green	Insecticide

Product Name	Active Ingredient	ZONE	Type
	Sulfate 1%		
Advion Ant Arena	Indoxacarb	Yellow	Insecticide
Advion Roach Gel	Indoxacarb	Yellow	Insecticide
Advion Insect Granules	Indoxacarb	Yellow	Insecticide
Agnique MMF	POE Isoocatadecanol	Yellow	Insecticide
Aliette	fosetyl aluminum	Yellow	Fungicide
Altosid Briquettes	methoprene	Yellow	Other
Altosid Liquid	methoprene	Yellow	Other
Altosid Pellets	methoprene	Yellow	Other
Altosid XR-B	methoprene	Yellow	Other
Aquamaster-Rodeo	glyphosate	Yellow	Herbicide
Avid	abamectin	Yellow	Miticide/Insecticide
Ditrac	Diphacinone	Yellow	Rodenticide
Dormant	petroleum oil	Yellow	Insecticide
Green Light	Neem oil	Yellow	Insecticide/Fungicide
Kop-R-Spray	Copper Oil	Yellow	Fungicide
M-PEDE	potassium salts of fatty acids	Yellow	Insecticide
Omni Oil	Mineral Oil	Yellow	Fungicide
Prostar 70 WP	flutolanil	Yellow	Fungicide
Rose Defense	Neem oil	Yellow	Insect/Fung
Roundup Pro	glyphosate	Yellow	Herbicide
Roundup PROMAX	glyphosate	Yellow	Herbicide
Safticide Oil	petroleum oil	Yellow	Insecticide
Stylet Oil	Petroleum distillates	Yellow	Insecticide
Sulf-R-Spray	Parafin oil, sulfur	Yellow	Fungicide
Superior Spray Oil	petroleum distillates	Yellow	Insecticide
Surflan	oryzalin	Yellow	Herbicide
Surflan AS	oryzalin	Yellow	Herbicide
Termidor SC	Fipronil	Yellow	Insecticide
Triact	Neem oil	Yellow	Insecticide/Fungicide
Trilogy	Neem oil	Yellow	Insecticide/Fungicide
Wasp-Freeze	allethrin	Yellow	Insecticide
Wilco Ground Squirrel Bait	diphacinone	Yellow	Other
XL 2G	benefin; oryzalin	Yellow	Herbicide
Banner-maxx	Propiconazole	S.C.	Fungicide
Bayleton	triadimafon triazole	S. C.	Fungicide
Daconil	Chlorothalonil	S.C.	Fungicide
Fumitoxin	Aluminum phosphide	S. C.	Rodenticide
Heritage	Azoxystrobin	S.C.	Fungicide
Manage	halosulfuron methyl	S. C.	Herbicide
Medallion	fludioxonil	S. C.	Fungicide

Product Name	Active Ingredient	ZONE	Type
Quick Pro	glyphosate/diquat	S. C.	Herbicide
Reward	diquat dibromide	S. C.	Herbicide
Rubigan	fenarimol	S. C.	Fungicide
Rubigan EC	fenarimol	S. C.	Fungicide
Subdue	metalaxyl	S. C.	Fungicide
Trimmit 2SC	Paclobutrazol	S.C.	Growth Regulator
Zp Rode	zinc phosphide	S. C.	Rodenticide

\* By decision of the Citizen IPM Advisory Committee, chemicals that may be classified normally as Yellow materials may be classified as Green materials if they are entirely enclosed in factory sealed bait stations.



**City of Santa Barbara**  
Parks and Recreation Department

**Memorandum**

**DATE:** March 14, 2014

**TO:** City Council  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Airport Commission

**FROM:** City IPM Advisory Committee

**SUBJECT:** IPM Advisory Committee Review of IPM Program in 2013 and 2013 Annual Report

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The City of Santa Barbara's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program is in its' 11<sup>th</sup> year. The Committee agrees with the analysis presented in the 2013 annual report and supports the direction and programs described therein.

Pesticide use has decreased substantially from its pre-strategy period before 2004, with the use of the most toxic materials decreasing by over 90% and green practices developed in a number of areas. Some use of toxic pesticides continues, however, due to a number of challenges, including control of fungus on golf greens, control of rodents on airport runways, mosquito control during critical periods, and control of invasive weeds. These areas currently provide only limited green alternatives that the City continues to explore.

Many of the City's challenges utilize green materials on a regular basis, such as mosquito control using Bti, rodent control using trapping, the use of compost tea on golf greens or the control of weeds using mechanical methods. However, often the challenges are sufficient, and the public health or resource issues substantial enough, that more toxic materials are used. Examples are the use of more aggressive/toxic materials when mosquito levels get too high, or the use of more toxic materials on the golf greens to prevent irreparable damage to greens. These challenges will always be present. We will continue to pursue green materials, but also protect the public's health and resources as part of this committee's mission and goals.

With the associated need for increased labor related to least toxic methods, we continue to believe that developing a well coordinated volunteer program will help the long term effectiveness of the IPM program. The Parks Division has expanded the number of volunteer work days by reaching out to community groups such as Santa Barbara Beautiful. We believe a more robust program, with online signups and a part-time and/or intern-type coordinator within the Parks Division, would help to assist in maintaining our parks at a high level of aesthetics. An example is Alice Keck Park Memorial Gardens, which is in need of extensive bed refurbishment and maintenance.



A coordinated effort to expand the existing volunteer pool for this park would help to reduce the need for pesticide use during renovations.

The Advisory Committee will continue to work with staff, elected officials, and members of the public to ensure a quality program that protects the City's assets while not compromising human and environmental health.