



DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH

COUNCIL POLICY

TITLE: DISTRICT CONTROLLED LANDS – HERBICIDES		NO. COU-116		
1.0 Purpose				
<p>This policy describes the approach to pest management used on public lands within the District of North Saanich. The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach is designed to eliminate the non-essential use of pesticides.</p> <p>IPM is not a single pest control method but, rather, is a series of pest management evaluations, decisions and controls. The IPM approach is consistent with the precautionary principle, and also with the vision set forth in the District of North Saanich’s Official Community Plan and Strategic Plan. The District of North Saanich strives to be a model steward, restoring and protecting air, land, and water quality, the biodiversity of existing natural areas and ecosystems, the network of natural areas and open spaces, and forest land.</p>				
2.0 Need for Policy				
<p>Many citizens are concerned about the amount and location of pesticide applications and associated health and environmental impacts. The District of North Saanich recognizes its unique location and environment and celebrates the need to safeguard its waterways, ecological habitats, and cultural heritage. An IPM policy is an important component in environmental stewardship of these features.</p> <p>This IPM policy demonstrates the District of North Saanich’s commitment to eliminating non-essential pesticide use on public lands, with the highest standards possible.</p>				
3.0 Policy Statement				
<p>The District of North Saanich will manage pests through an IPM program that is designed to eliminate the non-essential use of pesticides by applying the following principles and practices.</p>				
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3.1 Principles

Ecosystems will be managed and landscapes planned to prevent organisms from becoming pests. An ecological approach that uses appropriate preventative measures will be applied, with consideration given to native species diversity.

In situations where this approach could affect adjacent areas, there will be notification of the appropriate stakeholders.

Safeguarding human health, the environment, and non-target organisms will be primary considerations when developing pest management strategies, action levels and injury thresholds.

3.2 Training

To ensure appropriate and current understanding and implementation of IPM principles, the District of North Saanich staff will be provided with necessary and appropriate training.

4.0 Regulatory Context and Application

This policy applies to all lands owned or held by the District of North Saanich.

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