THE CITY OF VANCOUVER’S
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

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This Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan addresses pesticide application policies throughout the city of Vancouver, Washington. The plan serves to bring the city into compliance with Washington State’s Salmon Bearing Stream pesticide restrictions and with the provisions of the city’s Water Resources Protection Ordinance. It will also be submitted as a component of the WA Department of Health’s Water System Comprehensive Plan.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

In the interest of protecting the health and safety of Vancouver’s citizens, the environment and the purity of the municipal drinking water, the City of Vancouver will manage vegetation and pests using a minimum of least-toxic pesticides in accordance with measures specified for all areas and sub-areas within the city. The City will employ physical, mechanical, and biological controls and, where possible, landscape modifications prior to resorting to chemical controls.

When it is necessary to use pesticides, the City’s responsibilities will be to:

- Comply with federal and state regulations by applying pesticides strictly according to the label directions and precautions.
- Prevent contamination to the ground or surface waters from the time of purchase of the pesticide until it has degraded in the soil.

**SCOPE**

The goal of this IPM plan is to provide general and specific guidelines for urban pesticide management in the City of Vancouver. General provisions on landscape procedures, chemical usage, and alternative pest measures will apply to all publicly owned property.

In addition, more stringent guidelines for the handling, selection and application of pesticides will apply to three sub-areas of the city: (1) Salmon Bearing Stream (SBS) corridors, (2) School-Park Properties (SPP) adjacent to Vancouver schools, and (3) Special Protection Areas (SPA’s) surrounding municipal water stations.

Besides the 3 sub-areas with special pesticide management guidelines, there may be areas with special restrictions and limitations because an individual living in the vicinity is sensitive to certain chemicals.

**APPLICABILITY**

This Integrated Pest Management plan applies to properties owned and managed by the City of Vancouver. The City’s Water Resources Protection Ordinance (VMC 14.26), however, requires that businesses and residents follow guidelines on pesticide and fertilizer applications detailed in the Western Washington Stormwater Manual. One of the provisions in the Stormwater Manual requires applicators to have an Integrated Pest Management plan (Section IV, Ch. 2, BMP’s for Landscaping and Lawn/Vegetation Management).

If a business or resident does not already have an IPM plan prepared, they may agree to follow requirements and procedures found in the sections in this IPM plan titled PEST MANAGEMENT POLICIES and ADDITIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT IN URBAN SUB-AREAS, and this will satisfy the requirements of the Water Resources Protection Ordinance. The section in this IPM plan titled POLICIES FOR CITY APPLICATORS applies only to the City.
**DEFINITIONS**

*Critical Aquifer Recharge Area:* The entire area within the boundary of the City of Vancouver is designated a Critical Aquifer Recharge Area by VMC 14.26.115B.

*Pest:* Any insect, arachnid (spider, mite) rodent, nematode, mollusk (snail, slug), weed, fungus, plant pathogen (disease), or other form of plant or animal life that adversely interferes with the health, safety, environmental or economic goals of the community.

*Pesticide:* Any chemical agent registered as a pesticide by the Washington State Department of Agriculture including herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, or other chemicals that repel, change the regular growth rate, kill, or otherwise reduce levels of a targeted pest.

*Salmon Bearing Streams (SBS):* This represents a 60’ streamside corridor, as defined by the State of Washington, which will have more stringent pesticide restrictions. The state ruling applies only to the Columbia River in the Vancouver area, but the City will also apply the protective buffer to areas along Burnt Bridge Creek.

*School-Park Properties (SPP):* City property, such as parks, that border a parcel containing an active school will be protected with additional pesticide guidelines and restrictions. These areas apply year-round.

*Special Protection Areas (SPA):* Areas that lie within 1900’ of any municipal water supply well (as defined in VMC 14.26). These will have additional pesticide protections.

*Urban Sub-Areas:* Sensitive areas (public and private) identified by the City of Vancouver as requiring more restrictive pesticide management approaches.
PEST MANAGEMENT POLICIES

GENERAL POLICY
In applying a “minimum pest management” policy in Vancouver, the City will first rely on pest prevention measures.

In cases where prevention is not sufficient the City will employ non-spray measures such as trapping, biological controls, soil amendments, or landscape modifications to eliminate high maintenance or vulnerable vegetation.

Applications of biological products and then chemical products will be considered the last resort for a pest problem.

PREVENTION
- Where it is appropriate to maintain a more natural appearance for a given site, the landscape can be left alone or receive a reduced level of care to maintain. This can serve the dual purpose of reducing or eliminating pest control measures and reducing maintenance costs.
- The City will continue to establish thresholds for the level of tolerance for different pests. These thresholds will vary according to plant, pest, and site. The determination of action thresholds will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- Disease or pest resistant plants will be chosen where possible. Healthy plant stock will be selected.
- Proper planting methods, proper pruning techniques, and proper mulching will be employed, along with minimizing mechanical damage from equipment.
- Proper and adequate spacing of plant material will be initiated to reduce the incidence of insect and disease problems.
- Maintenance of high species diversity and elimination of monocultures in plantings will assist in preventing pests.
- Before planting there will be adequate site preparation. This preparation can include soil improvements, pruning of surrounding vegetation, soil grade adjustments, drainage improvements, and where needed, installation of irrigation systems.
- Proper timing and use of water will promote plant health and eliminate drought and flood stresses.
- Proper timing and use of fertilization can eliminate over- and under-fertilization which can affect both the target plant as well as runoff to surface and groundwater.

MECHANICAL CONTROLS
The following are some specific mechanical control measures which can be employed prior to resorting to chemical spray controls:
- Removal of diseased, damaged, infected or dead materials from the landscape area and cleaning of tools and equipment to reduce the spread of infected materials.
- Pruning and plant removal to promote air circulation and light penetration for healthier plant growth. Increased shading to reduce germination where appropriate.
- Mulching of beds for weed reduction, water retention, and winter protection.
- Mechanical edging of turf.
- Removal of spent flowers on shrubs and annuals.
• Hand clearing in rough areas.
• Hand weeding in shrub beds.
• Mowing of rough areas for vegetation control.

NON-CHEMICAL CONTROLS
These may include traps such as yellow sticky boards for insects and live animal traps for mammalian pests. If “body hold” animal traps are needed a permit must be obtained from the Department of Fish and Wildlife. High pressure water spray may also be employed in some situations to control pests. Biological controls include naturally occurring and introduced insect or disease parasitoids, predators, and microbial products.

CHEMICAL CONTROLS
Chemical controls can include the following: pheromone traps, petroleum based horticultural oils, insecticidal soaps, botanically and bacterially derived pesticides, and artificially synthesized pesticides.

• If pesticides are considered absolutely necessary then it is the legal responsibility of the applicator to fully read, understand and follow the label instructions.
• Pesticides will be selected based on properties, site conditions, pest complex and severity of infestation.
• The applicator will choose the least toxic pesticide capable of reducing the infestation to acceptable levels. The pesticide should readily degrade in the environment or strongly bind to the soil.
• Any method used will be site-specific and not used wholesale over a wide area.
• Pest control shall be conducted at the life stage when the pest is most vulnerable.
• No pesticides will be used without an accompanying Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), and the applicator will have a copy of the MSDS available at the site of application.
• Note that climatic conditions can negatively impact the application. In periods of heavy rain pesticides can move quickly through some types of soil and threaten groundwater, and in hot weather volatiles can change to a gaseous state and become airborne.
• Pesticide applications will be scheduled during times of low pedestrian traffic to minimize human exposure.

GENERAL PESTICIDE SPILL POLICY

Background
Several state and federal regulations address emergency releases of hazardous materials. The Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regulate the release of chemicals if it occurs when they are being transported.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) protect the environment through regulations on responding to contamination of water, land, and air resulting from an emergency release of a hazardous material. They are also concerned with proper disposal of waste generated from a spill.

The Coast Guard has jurisdiction over the Columbia River, and should be contacted if there is a spill to the river or a tributary. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is concerned with the proper training and protection of workers handling hazardous materials.
Spill Designations
OSHA has two designations for spills. The first, *Incidental Spill*, applies to spills presenting a low risk to the worker, the public, and the environment. Included are small spills of dilute pesticides, spills of material with granular formulations, and lower toxicity materials. Small Incidental Spills that occur on impervious surfaces and are completely contained and cleaned up would not require reporting.

The second OSHA designation, *Emergency Response Spill*, applies to incidents with a high degree of hazard such as large spills of dilute material, pesticides with higher toxicity, and concentrates in a confined space. An Incidental Spill becomes an Emergency Response Spill when:

1. The spill precipitates evacuation or curtailing of work;
2. The event causes a negative impact on neighboring facilities or the community; or,
3. The spill involves a coordinated effort by local first responders.

General Spill Procedures
1. **Assess the spill.** Determine whether it is safe for you to clean it up or whether you need help.

2. **Control the Area.** If there is an *imminent threat* to human health or injuries, call **911** and:
   - Keep bystanders away from the area until emergency crews arrive.
   - Help injured people if safe to do so.
   - Determine whether you can safely take steps to minimize the spill.
   - Call and report spill to supervisor.

3. **Notify.** If a spill of pesticides threatens surface water resources, or a spill requires an Emergency Response, the National Response Center, Washington’s Emergency Management Division, and Ecology’s SW Regional office should be notified. If a spill occurs in one of Vancouver’s Urban Sub-Areas, the City of Vancouver Operations Center should be called. The following are spill reporting phone numbers:
   - **National Response Center:** 1-800-424-8802
   - **Washington Emergency Management Division:** 1-800-258-5990
   - **Ecology Southwest Regional Office:** (360) 407-6300
   - **City of Vancouver Operations Center:** (360) 696-8177
   - **Water Resource Protection Program:** (360) 487-7130 (if the spill contaminates surface water or could potentially seep into groundwater).

4. **Stop and Contain.** If the spill can be controlled:
   - Put on Personal Protective Equipment as appropriate
   - Protect drains and surface water bodies.
   - Stop the chemical flow:
     - For a leaking container, position container to prevent additional leakage.
     - For a leaky valve, isolate valve and depressurize tank.
     - For a broken hose, shut off valve or pump and put hose back into tank, or use duct tape/rags to stop the flow, or bend or clamp hose.
   - Contain the spill with absorbent materials.

5. **Cleaning up an Incidental Spill:**
   - Use broom and dust pan to sweep up dry materials. Label container or bag with contents and reuse if possible. Dispose of spilled material according to applicable local, state and federal regulations.
• Use absorbent materials to soak up liquid spills and put them in garbage bags. Label bag with the name of the pesticide, “spill cleanup” and date of spill. Dispose of spilled material according to applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

• After absorbing as much liquid as possible, rinse impervious surfaces with minimal amounts of water, *making sure to contain water*, and soak up rinse water with absorbents. Bag and label rinse water absorbents for reuse or for disposal according to applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

• If soil has been contaminated, shovel contaminated soil onto visquene temporarily, weather permitting, until a drum can be acquired to transport the soil off site. Label drum with pesticide, “Contaminated Soil”, and date of spill. Arrange to have contaminated soil disposed of according to applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
ADDITIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT IN URBAN SUB-AREAS

This section of the IPM Plan designates certain environmentally sensitive sub-areas in Vancouver. Appendices A-D provide details on the more stringent guidelines that will apply in those areas. The City has also developed a GIS site atlas gives the option of turning on layers depicting Special Protection Areas, School-Park Properties and Salmon Bearing Streams. This GIS application is available on the city website at: [www.cityofvancouver.us/waterprotection](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/waterprotection)

Salmon Bearing Streams (SBS)

These pesticide restrictions apply to 60 ft. buffer zones based on a ruling by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington to protect streams and water bodies accessible to salmon. The ruling was issued in December 2003 and applies directly to the Columbia River. The City has also chosen to apply this buffer ruling to the full extent of Burnt Bridge Creek within the city limits. For a listing of prohibited pesticides in these areas see Appendix A. The following are parks and other City properties that will be specifically protected by this ruling.

**SBS Protected Zones on City of Vancouver properties**
- Bagley Park – small creek in center of park to natural area on west end
- Leverich Park – Burnt Bridge Creek through entire park
- Marine Park – entire south side of park and boat ramp landscape area
- Wintler Park – turf area and shrub beds on river side of walkway
- Kevanna Park – Burnt Bridge Creek through entire park
- Oakbrook Park – drainage ditch on north side of park
- Meadowbrook Marsh – anywhere along Burnt Bridge Creek
- Blandford Greenway – drainage ditch along eastside of Blandford Way
- HJ Biddle Nature Preserve/Columbia Springs – wetland and parking areas
- Lieser Point – entire area
- Water Resources Education Center – south side of overlook and along trail
- Vancouver Landing – southwest corner of west parking lot
- Columbia Promenade – river side of walkway from Capt. Vancouver Monument to Wintler Park
- Stewart Glen/Discovery Trail – various areas along entire length of Burnt Bridge Creek
- Beaver Marsh – entire area

School-Park Properties (SPP)

Special protections and restrictions are outlined for school grounds and properties located directly adjacent to any active public or private school in the city. These protections are based on the Vancouver Public School Integrated Pest Management Report prepared in March 2002. The lists of application guidelines and pesticide restrictions for these properties are shown in Appendix B.

**SPP Protected City Parks Near Schools**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Park/Location</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bagley</td>
<td>Burnt Bridge Creek School</td>
<td>Cascade</td>
<td>Edgewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellsworth</td>
<td>Evergreen Park East</td>
<td>Fircrest</td>
<td>Fisher Basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearthwood</td>
<td>Lincoln Tennis Courts</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>Memory Mill Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogden</td>
<td>Swift Tennis Courts</td>
<td>Shumway</td>
<td>Vancouver Tennis Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WyEast</td>
<td>Washington Elementary</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Special Protection Areas (SPA)

These are defined as the 1900’ radial areas around Vancouver Water Stations 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 14 and 15, and around the Ellsworth Water Stations. Clark Public Utility municipal wells that lie wholly or partially in the city limits are also subject to these protections. It is the City’s policy to use all available measures to protect the water supply from contamination through pesticides.

A list of special application guidelines and pesticide restrictions for these properties are shown in Appendix C.

Sensitive Individuals

In 1992 the Washington State Legislature passed a law which allows pesticide sensitive individuals to be placed upon a registry and be contacted by an applicator prior to a pesticide application to a landscape or right-of-way which is adjacent to their principal place of residence. A list of Washington’s registered sensitive individuals and affected properties can be found on the website: http://agr.wa.gov//PestFert/Pesticides/SensitivityRegistry.htm#PSI
POLICIES FOR CITY APPLICATORS

SAFETY
The City of Vancouver has an excellent safety record with respect to the use of pesticides. This is due to thorough training and adherence to safety procedures when employees work with pesticides.

Employees engaged in any way with the contact of pesticides will follow all clothing and equipment requirements listed on the pesticide label and in the corresponding Material Safety Data Sheets. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided by the City of Vancouver. This includes, but is not limited to, respirators, safety glasses/goggles, coveralls, rain gear, chemically resistant boots and gloves, hats, ear protectors for noise, and barrier creams. The applicator is responsible for cleaning, storing, and maintaining spray protection clothing and equipment in a safe and useful manner.

PESTICIDE REGULATIONS AND CERTIFICATION
Several Federal and State agencies regulate the use of pesticides. The City conforms to all pesticide laws and regulations, allowing ONLY State licensed Public Pesticide Applicators to apply pesticides. To obtain a Public Pesticide Applicator's License, applicators must pass a series of tests given by the State Department of Agriculture. Licensed applicators are legally liable if they apply pesticides contrary to State and Federal laws and label directions.

By state requirements, City applicators must receive 40 credit hours of state approved on-going recertification training over a period of 5 years to maintain the certification/license. All licensed pesticide applicators participate fully in these training opportunities to enhance and maintain their expertise in pest management. Ultimate responsibility for maintaining a valid license lies with the applicator.

STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF PESTICIDES
Pesticides and pesticide containers shall be kept in secure and safe locations in accordance with existing laws. All pesticides that do not have a long shelf life or can be degraded by heat or cold should be tagged and, if possible, kept in a heated, well-ventilated, environmentally controlled area. Special care will be taken to prevent pesticide contamination. The storage area will limit access to only authorized personnel.

All pesticides in stock will be inventoried regularly and, if necessary, rotated on the shelf to assure that the oldest dated items are used first.

The City will dispose of pesticides and empty pesticide containers in accordance with all State and Federal regulations and label recommendations. The disposal of these materials requires care in handling and use of all necessary protective equipment.

PESTICIDE TRANSPORT POLICY
Before transporting pesticides, containers are to be tightly closed and secured, with labels legible. Only licensed applicators shall transport pesticides. Pesticides shall not be transported in passenger cabs of vehicles.
Any truck carrying bulk pesticides for application will have spill cleanup materials in the vehicle including personal protective clothing, shovel, and absorbent material. There will also be a Material Safety Data Sheet in the vehicle for the pesticide being transported.

**POSTED NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION**
If pesticide is applied in an area where there may be foot traffic, notification flags shall be posted at the treatment site prior to application. The information to be posted on a pesticide application flag is shown in Appendix E. Unless there is a specified reentry period, the posted flags will be removed after the material is dry to allow reentry.

**IPM POLICY TRAINING**
The Grounds Superintendent will be responsible for final approval of all pesticide applications. The Superintendent will also coordinate training of all staff members directly involved in vegetation and pest management and will be responsible for disciplinary action if a trained City employee knowingly ignores the guidelines and restrictions listed in this IPM.

**RECORDKEEPING**
Applicators are required by law to record specific information when applying pesticides. The City’s Grounds Management department will maintain records of all pesticides used, date and time of application, active ingredients, formulation of mix, storage locations, treatment locations, weather conditions, temperature, and target pests. Non-spray pest and weed control measures will also be documented.
Restricted Pesticides in SBS 60’ Buffers

- 2,4-D – prohibits use of products Speedzone, Trimec Classic, Crossbow, Curtail
- Azinphos-methyl – prohibits use of product Guthion
- Bensulide - prohibits use of products Prefar, Betasan
- Bromoxynil – prohibits use of product Buctril
- Carbaryl – prohibits use of products Sevin, Sevit
- Carbofuran – prohibits use of product Furodan
- Chlorpyrifos - prohibits use of products Dursban, Lorsban
- Coumaphos – prohibits use of products Agridip, Delice, Meldame, Resistox
- Diazinon – active ingredient in many products
- Diflubenzuron – prohibits use of product Dimilin
- Dimethoate – prohibits use of product Cygon
- Diuron – prohibits use of products Dinex, Karmex
- Fenbutatin-oxide - prohibits use of product Vendex
- Lindane – prohibits use of products Lindane, Isotox
- Malathion – active ingredient in many products
- Methomyl - prohibits use of product Lannate
- Methyl parathion - prohibits use of products Penncap-M, Declare
- Metolachlor - prohibits use of products Dual, Bicep
- Metrabuzin - prohibits use of products Axion, Lexone, Sencor
- Naled - prohibits use of product Dibrom
- Pendimethalin - prohibits use of products Pendulum Aqua-Cap, Prowl
- Phorate - prohibits use of product Thimet
- Tebuthiuron - prohibits use of product Spike
- Triclopyr BEE - prohibits use of products Garlon 4, Crossbow
Application Guidelines in SPP’s

- Pesticides will be used on City property adjacent to schools only if necessary for the health and safety of people in the community or as a last resort in controlling problematic vegetation or pests.
- Fertilizers will have the N-P-K ratio (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) recommended by Cooperative Extension for the Pacific Northwest and be slow-release synthetic/organic nitrogen types to minimize excess runoff and contamination of surface water.
- A site application notice shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the application. An example of the site application notice is shown in Appendix E.
- No interior fogging or space spraying shall be done.
- Insecticides shall be used only in containerized baits or for spot treatment targeted to insect nests or problem areas and only according to the label rate of material.
- Herbicides shall not be used on School-Park properties solely for aesthetic purposes.
- Cost and staffing shall not be the only justification for the use and selection of pesticides.

Pesticide Restrictions in SPP’s – The pesticide shall not:

- Be classified by the EPA as highly acutely toxic (Hazard Category I or II). The signal word for Category II products is WARNING.
- Be a “restricted use” pesticide, that is, any pesticide that can only be applied by a certified applicator.
- Contain ingredients that the Environmental Protection Agency has identified as possible, probable, known or likely carcinogens or contain active ingredients that have not yet been evaluated to determine their toxicity.
APPENDIX C: URBAN SUB-AREA PEST MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES
SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS (SPA)

Application Guidelines in SPA’s

- In a Special Protection Area, pesticides shall not be applied on a routine schedule (seasonal, monthly, or weekly).
- No fogging or space spraying shall be done.
- Insecticides shall be used only in containerized baits or for spot treatment targeted to insect nests or problem areas where a minimal amount of material will be used.
- Herbicides shall not be used in a Special Protection Area solely for aesthetic purposes.
- Cost and staffing are not sufficient justification for use of pesticides.
- Pesticides being transported in an SPA will be appropriately and safely secured in the vehicle with secondary container protection for concentrated pesticides.
- Pesticides will not be externally mixed or stored within a Special Protection Area.

Pesticide Restrictions in SPA’s – Pesticides applied must meet the following criteria:

- The pesticide shall not be classified by the EPA as highly acutely toxic (Hazard Category I or II). The signal word for Category II products is WARNING.
- The pesticide shall not be a “restricted use” pesticide, that is, any pesticide that can only be applied by a certified applicator.
- Ingredients in the pesticide shall not include those ingredients restricted in Salmon Bearing Streams as listed earlier in this IPM.
- All ingredients shall have a half soil life of 100 days or less.
- Ingredients shall have “extremely low” or “very low” mobility in soil according to the Groundwater Ubiquity Score (GUS) index.
- The product shall not say on the label that it is toxic to fish, birds, wildlife or domestic animals.
- The City has chosen not to install wood products treated with Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) preservatives within an SPA.
The following are provisions from Washington Pesticide Application Act related to pesticide-sensitive individuals and adjoining properties:

- Individuals desiring to be placed on the list must submit to WSDA the application form provided by the department. A physician who currently holds a license to practice medicine in Washington State must certify that an individual is sensitive to pesticides.
- All individuals who have applied to be on the pesticide sensitive list will receive verification that their name has been added to the list.
- The pesticide sensitive list will be mailed to certified applicators by January 1 (with a registration cut-off date of December 1), and June 15 (with a registration cut-off date of April 15) of each year.
- Certified applicators making landscape or right-of-way applications are required to notify any person on the pesticide sensitive list of any pesticide application to an adjoining property.
- It is the pesticide sensitive individual's responsibility to notify the department of any changes in their name and address, changes in information concerning adjoining properties, or any change in their sensitivity to pesticides.

If you have any questions or require additional information on sensitive individuals in Washington, please contact the Pesticide Management Division, Compliance Branch at (360) 902-2073.
APPENDIX E: POSTED NOTICES ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS

1. Posted notices shall say:

   NOTICE: THIS AREA HAS BEEN RECENTLY SPRAYED OR TREATED WITH PESTICIDES BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER

   Product Name:
   Active Ingredient:
   Target Pest:
   Date of Application:
   Time of Application:

   FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT _______ AT ________ (phone number).

2. The Notice will also include a boxed warning stating:

   CAUTION: Pregnant women, infants, children and individuals with respiratory or heart disease, chemical sensitivities, or weakened immune systems may be particularly susceptible to adverse health affects due to pesticide exposure.

3. Note: The posted notice shall remain in place for 24 hours following the application.