Auburn University Facilities Management

Landscape Services

IPM Plan

Auburn University
Facilities Management Landscape Services
(334) 844-4556

Introduction

Pests are populations of living organism (animals, plants, or microorganism) that interfere with use of healthcare and other facilities for human purposes.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an approach that establishes a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health and environmental risks.

Auburn University Landscape Services has adopted this Integrated Pest Management Plan for the buildings and grounds Auburn University Landscape Services manages. The plan is designed to voluntarily comply with policies and regulations established by the Department of Agriculture and Industries of the State of Alabama.

Objectives of this IPM plan include:

- Elimination of significant threats caused by pests to the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and the public.
- Prevention of loss or damage to turf, ornamental plants or trees by pests.
- Protection of environmental quality on the campus of Auburn University.

IPM Coordinator and Committee

Auburn University Landscape Services will maintain an IPM or other safety-related committee with responsibility for annual review of the IPM program and for assisting the IPM Coordinator in resolving pest-related issues. The committee will address IPM issues as needed and at least annually.

Notification of Pesticide Applications

Record Keeping

Auburn University Landscape Services will be responsible for and maintain records of all pesticide applications in accordance with State of Alabama regulations. Product labels and MSDS sheets will be available at Auburn University Landscape Services shop facility.

Training

All Auburn University Landscape Services employees who will be handling or applying pesticides will be provided training on the Auburn University Landscape Services IPM policy.
Additionally, designated staff will receive advanced training through outside sources in order to maintain any issued State of Alabama pesticide licenses in accordance with state requirements.

Personnel

Supervisor
Pesticide Applicator II
Pesticide Applicator II
Groundskeeper I
Groundskeeper I

General IPM Strategies

Pest management strategies may include education, exclusion, sanitation, maintenance, biological and mechanical controls, and pre-approved, site-appropriate pesticides.

An Integrated Pest Management decision at Auburn University Landscape Services shall consist of the following steps:

1. Identify pest species.

2. Estimate pest populations and compare to established action thresholds.

3. Select the appropriate management tactics based on current on-site information.

4. Assess effectiveness of pest management.

5. Keep appropriate records.

Decisions concerning whether or not pesticides should be applied in a given situation will be based on a review of all available options. Efforts will be made to avoid the use of pesticides by adequate pest proofing of facilities, good sanitation practices, selection of pest-resistant plant materials, and appropriate horticultural practices.

When it is determined that a pesticide must be used in order to meet pest management objectives, the least-hazardous material, adequate for the job, will be chosen.

All pesticide storage, transportation, and application will be conducted in accordance with the requirement of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 United States Code136 et seq.), Environmental Protection Agency regulations in 40 CFR, Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations, Auburn University Landscape Services policies and procedures, and local ordinances.

No person shall apply, store, or dispose of any pesticide on Auburn University Landscape Services - managed property without an appropriate pesticide applicator license. All pesticide applicators will be trained in the principles and practices of IPM and the use of pesticides approved for use by Auburn University Landscape Services. All applicators must comply with the IPM policy and follow appropriate regulations and label precautions when using pesticides in or around Auburn University facilities.

Pest-specific strategies will be included in the IPM Program Specifications provided to each service provider.

Pest Specific Strategies

Turf Weed and Nutrient Management

A minimum of 2 Pre-emergent weed control applications will be made to all turf under Level One or Level Two Maintenance schedules.

Post-emergent weed control applications will be made in conjunction with Pre-emergent applications or when a significant population of weeds necessitates control measures on turf under Level One or Level Two Maintenance schedules.

All turf under Level One or Level Two maintenance schedules will receive a minimum of one fertilization containing both nitrogen and potassium. Phosphorous will not be included in the fertilization unless recommended by a soil test. The fertilization may or may not include a pre-emergent weed control on the fertilizer prill.

Turf under a Level three Maintenance schedule will receive pre-emergent, post-emergent and fertilization only when absolutely necessary to improve appearance.

Damaging insects will be treated on an as needed basis.

Shrub and Tree Bed Weed and Nutrient Management

Weeds will be managed within campus tree rings and shrub beds with non-selective herbicides such as glyphosate. Weed specific herbicides will be used when the need arises.

Pre-emergent weed control will be applied to specific shrub beds that exhibit continual weed problems to eliminate the germination of weeds.

Damaging insects will be treated on an as needed basis.

Invasive Plant Management

Invasive plants will continue to be eliminated throughout campus through the use of mechanical removal and the use of herbicides.

Fire Ant Management

Fire ants will be managed to eliminate a threat to students, faculty, staff and the public. This management will consist a three method insecticide approach. (1) Visible fire ant hills will be treated with a contact insecticide drench to reduce or eliminate the amount of ants in the colony. (2) The entire area and outlying areas will also be treated with bait insecticides to eliminate or reduce fire ants in the entire area. (3) Highly trafficked and key areas of campus will be treated with a long lasting insecticide that will be applied annually.

Mosquito Management

Document Attached