

Section XIII. – Impact to system

Integrated Pest Management as a general rule is a more expensive management system than the traditionally used pesticide treatments to manage the parks. Therefore, budget adjustments will be essential in order to reach the long range goals set by this policy. These budgetary needs will develop from the increase in workload caused by reducing pesticide application and increasing cultural and biological control tactics to solve pest problems. These control tactics can be effective but are often more time consuming and labor intensive. This is demonstrated by the annual labor hour report for Buford Watson, Jr. Park shown below.

Annual Labor Hour Report - Buford Watson, Jr. Park				
Years	2004	2005	2006	2007
Pruning/Landscape Bed Maintenance(Hours)	295.5	336.75	416.5	408
These hours include mulching, pruning, weed removal, flowers, and watering.				

This table shows almost a 30% increase in park labor hours from 2004 to 2006, after the implementation of the pesticide reduction plan. Alternative methods of pesticide control to regulate pests require a substantial commitment of labor resources. Alternative methods and products to pesticides generally require multiple attempts or applications to attain the same results as a single application standard for most pesticides.

The table below demonstrates the estimated increased labor, labor cost, materials cost, and total cost of managing a 1,000 square foot area with pesticides vs. hand weeding.

Cost for weed management in a 1,000 square foot area				
Method	Labor	Labor cost	Materials cost	Total Cost
Roundup Pro	1 hour	\$21	\$2	\$23
Hand Weeding	12 hours	\$252	\$0	\$252

The table above demonstrates the increase in labor workload and cost for maintaining a 1,000 square foot landscaped area in a park. This example is the estimated increase expected of an average park landscape area for the City of Lawrence. There are other examples where this increase is much more drastic. One example is city maintained cemeteries. Without the ability to apply pesticides around headstones, the workload would increase more than 400 percent. An example of this increase is shown in the table below.

Labor hours comparison for applying pesticides to headstones vs. weed trimming headstones				
Method	Laborers	Hours per day	Days	Total labor hours
Weed trimming	2	8	110	1760
Pesticide application	6	8	8	384