

## **Section X. - Public Education**

The public will play an integral role in whether or not Integrated Pest Management is successful. They need to be educated about the goals, as well as the time frame in which goals will be accomplished.

There will be many obtainable ways for the public to educate themselves on IPM, including:

- The Parks and Recreation IPM policy being available online.
- An updated list of pesticides being used by the department.
- Information online to explain notification signage when pesticides are applied.
- List of alternative products for pest treatment.
- Information on volunteer groups that have adopted a park to assist in the maintenance of the area.

Locations will also be selected to hold public education meetings, making citizens aware of our goals with the IPM policy, as well as how they can keep themselves well-informed on our time frame and the pesticides used in their neighborhood. They will also be informed on how our signage and notification will take place on site when pesticides are used.

Working with and educating the public will be on-going in the development and achievement of this policy.

## **Section XI. - Staff Training**

A main concern in the continuation of the IPM policy will be training staff on IPM methods. Parks and Recreation staff will need to be educated on the policy the City of Lawrence has adopted, what the policy entails and how it will progress. They need to be aware of short-term solutions of IPM and how much labor is needed for each area.

In addition to being well-informed on short-term solutions and IPM policy, staff will need additional training on how to design landscape for long-term IPM progress. New knowledge on landscape design and maintenance is crucial to integrating long-term IPM methods. In order for pesticide reduction to progress over the years, there will need to be on-going training and educational opportunities in areas of design, maintenance methods, new alternative methods, pest populations and new pests. Training will be considered a high priority.

Training will be organized by the IPM committee through discovery of informational conferences, inviting experienced speakers to conduct training, and interdepartmental training about new IPM methods and alternatives. Staff needs to be kept up-to-date on IPM policy changes as it will constantly be revised by the IPM committee and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The IPM coordinator will ensure consistent training for staff to maintain a commercial applicator's license. This will assist staff in identifying pest problems accurately and keep them up-to-date on pesticide laws and safety.

The IPM coordinator, with the help of the IPM committee, and approval by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will schedule all training. Managers and supervisors are expected to participate and fully support involvement by staff in all scheduled training.