

Integrated Pesticide Management Plan

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an interdisciplinary approach utilizing methods to prevent, eliminate, contain, and/or control pest species in concert with other management activities on refuge lands and waters to achieve wildlife and habitat management goals and objectives. An Integrated Pesticide Management Plan (IPMP) relates the steps necessary to control any harmful pesticides deemed necessary through IPM. The Home Owners Association (HOA) will retain a qualified firm to develop an IPM plan to include a series of pest management evaluations, decisions and controls. Typically, there are four steps implemented under an IPM plan: Set action thresholds under the plan, Monitor and Identify Community Pests, Pest Prevention and Pest Control.

The Pest Control portion of an IPM dictates the actions necessary in the corresponding Integrated Pesticide Management Plan. Upon implementing an IPM for The Croton Overlook Development project, forecasted pest control has been deemed to have little to no negative effects on the surrounding environment. All pesticides and fertilizers, if any, which will be used on the proposed project site, will not be applied without proper warrant, and will be monitored under the IPM and carried out in accordance with all local codes and regulations. It should be noted that the spraying of nonspecific pesticides will be performed as a last resort to initial lower risk pest management methods.

Upon setting forth an IPM, action thresholds must be established to determine when pest control actions shall be carried out. These thresholds set the point at which pest populations, or environmental conditions, indicate that pest control action must be taken. It is important to note that sighting a single pest does not always mean control is necessary. The level at which pests will either become an economic, or an environmental threat, is critical for making pest control decisions.

Monitoring and identifying pests within the community is very useful to the IPM, as having a clear understanding of the pests in the surrounding areas will help enable a proper prevention process. Monitoring and identification of pests is also more efficient as it removes the possibility that pesticides will be used immediately when they are not really needed, or that the wrong kind of pesticide be utilized.

A separate component to the IPM is the Pest Prevention step. This step outlines the first line of pest control defense through a community action and education program designed to help prevent pests from becoming a problem. This step is valuable to the entire community, as prevention proves to be much more cost effective than extermination and removal. A well informed and educated community can work together to help lower the cost of removing pests and reducing the impact of pesticides on the surrounding environment by taking important steps in preventing the outbreak of pests.

In conclusion, initial forecasts predict that it will not be necessary to use any pesticides or fertilizers which will harm the environment in any direct way. If the action thresholds established determine that the use of pest control methods is necessary, all procedures will comply with local standards and extreme care will be carried out to ensure the protection of the

local environment. The entire community will be informed of any necessary steps and actions prior to their implementation.