



POLICY ON THE USE OF PESTICIDES **ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY**

CITY OF GALENA, ILLINOIS

I. PURPOSE

The City of Galena strives to be a good steward of the natural environment. As such, the city continually explores innovative, environmentally sensitive and cost-effective approaches to pest management.

The objective of this policy is to manage pests that may cause harm or threaten the health, functioning capability, or appearance of a site while minimizing risk to human health and the environment.

II. DEFINITIONS

1. Pest. An organism that interferes with desirable plants, impacts human or animal health, damages structures or harms some component of the ecosystem or built environment. The pest can be an insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism.
2. Pesticide. A pesticide is defined as:
 - a. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
 - b. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.
 - c. Any nitrogen stabilizer.

III. RESTRICTION OF PESTICIDE USE

Further it is the policy of the City of Galena that its employees and contractors do not use pesticides on any city-owned property, including the following areas managed by the city:

1. Parks, including the dog park.
2. Playgrounds and mulched recreation areas.
3. Trails.
4. Pool facilities.
5. Buildings.
6. Residential or commercial areas.
7. River and stream banks.
8. Roadways.
9. Any other spaces open to and frequented by the public.

IV. SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

Notwithstanding the restrictions set forth in Section III, the City Administrator may approve by special exception, limited areas or circumstances where pesticides may be used. In such cases, the decision to use pesticides will follow the City of Galena Integrated Pest Management Strategy defined in Section V and will be approved by the City Administrator.

Possible special exceptions could include:

1. Controlling invasive species as identified by the University of Illinois Extension.
2. Control of disease vectors.
3. Control of biting or stinging insects (including on playgrounds).
4. Controlling organisms that threaten the health of trees and shrubs.
5. Maintaining right-of-way property as part of efforts by a public utility to comply with applicable vegetation management provisions of any federal, state, or local law regulation.
6. Control of indoor pests, if applied around or near the foundation of a building.
7. Controlling pest outbreaks that pose an imminent threat to human health or present the possibility of significant economic damage if a registered pesticide is not used.

Uses of pesticides approved by the City Administrator are listed in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made part hereof. The Policy on the Use of Pesticides on City-Owned Property and the list of approved pesticides and their locations of use shall be published at all times on the City of Galena website.

V. INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The city employs the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM coordinates the use of pest biology, environmental information, and available technology to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage — using the most economical means while posing the least possible risk to people, property, resources, and the environment. IPM provides an effective strategy for managing pests in all areas.

The mere presence of a pest does not necessarily indicate a need for control. Many pests serve as valuable food sources for beneficial organisms not considered pests. In many cases, beneficial organisms provide natural pest control by maintaining pest populations at low enough levels to prevent serious outbreaks. Full eradication of a pest population is therefore not ideal, as it will also reduce the population of nearby beneficial organisms. Maintaining a healthy environment includes accepting some pests at tolerable levels.

As part of the IPM process, preventive measures are taken to circumvent potential pest outbreaks. These practices include the maintenance of landscapes and facilities in a way that reduces the ability of pests to reach levels that could cause significant harm, damage, or nuisance.

When preventive measures and natural controls are ineffective at suppressing a pest population to tolerable levels, control methods are considered. Action thresholds may be based on several factors, including aesthetics, environmental damage or economic loss. If a pest is discovered in a landscape that is not likely to cause significant long-term damage or harm, no action may be considered appropriate.

If the level of a pest has been determined to exceed the tolerance threshold for an area, as part of the IPM strategy, city staff will consider all available options for the management of the pest. This may include physical controls, such as hand-picking, pruning or use of traps; biological control by promoting

natural predators to the affected site; or using approved chemical control methods. While each pest situation is unique, the city relies on the informed judgment of its staff, industry and academic professionals, and current best practices to make high-quality management decisions.

If chemical control is determined to be the most appropriate management option, city staff will recommend a method to achieve the desired result, while being thoughtful about economic, human health and environmental risks. Chemical control methods may include the use of bio-rational, reduced-risk materials, such as horticultural oils and soaps, or may involve the use of conventional pesticides. In this context, a conventional pesticide may refer to an insecticide, herbicide, fungicide or rodenticide. When a pesticide is recommended by city staff for control, city staff will present the pesticide to the City Administrator for a special exception as defined in Section IV of this policy.

Chemical controls are applied minimally on city landscapes but are considered a valuable tool for certain pest situations. The city adheres to all local, state and federal pesticide laws and regulations. Pesticides shall only be applied by certified pesticide applicators, whether city employees or contractors, trained to apply pesticides safely and in an environmentally sensitive manner. Applicators apply the smallest dose of a pesticide necessary to be effective against the infestation. Spot treatment, or the application of a pesticide only to affected areas, is required over indiscriminate spraying. All pesticides shall be applied according to the recommended application methods, with appropriate personal protective equipment and clothing. All pesticides shall be stored according to the recommended storage guidelines.

The city's IPM strategy is further explained in Exhibit B.

Updated: October 10, 2023

EXHIBIT A

Special Exceptions to the Restriction of the Use of Pesticides

Weeds and Invasive Plants					
Approved Product	Approval Date	Active Ingredient	Purpose of Use	Approved Location of Use	Notes
Finale XT T&O Herbicide	October 10, 2023	Glufosinate-ammonium	Weed control	1. Wastewater plant solar array	Non-synthetic natural herbicide effective against crabgrass, dandelion, clover, plantain, and nimblewill.
Forestry					
Various	October 10, 2023	Emamectin Benzoate	Emerald Ash Borer	1. Public right of way in front of 219 S. High Street	Used annually to protect two legacy ash trees from Emerald Ash Borer. Semi-synthetic active ingredient.
Biting or Stinging Insects					
Stem: Kills Wasps, Hornets and Yellow Jackets	October 10, 2023	Geranoil, Lemongrass Oil	As needed for biting or stinging insects that threaten public or employee safety.	Where needed to control the threat.	Plant-based active ingredient spray.
Other Insects					
Suspend PolyZone	October 10, 2023	Deitamethrin	Indoor and outdoor (building perimeter) pests such as ants, silverfish, spiders, earwigs, fleas, cockroaches, and ants.	1. City Hall 2. Pool (exterior) 3. Turner Hall (exterior) 4. Police Dept. (exterior) 5. Public Works	Applications made in accordance with product label. Current contractor is Exact Pest Control.

Other Insects (Continued)					
Approved Product	Approval Date	Active Ingredient	Purpose of Use	Location of Use	Notes
Talster P (Professional Insecticide)	October 10, 2023	Bifenthrin	Indoor and outdoor (building perimeter)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City Hall 2. Pool (exterior) 3. Turner Hall (exterior) 4. Police Dept. (exterior) 5. Public Works 	Applications made in accordance with product label. Current contractor is Exact Pest Control.
Rodents					
Talen Weatherblok XT (Rodenticide)	October 10, 2023	Brodifacoum	Rats and mice around buildings – For use only in tamper-proof boxes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City Hall 2. Pool 3. Turner Hall 4. Police Dept. 5. Public Works 	Bait is presented inside a locked bait station and secured with metal bars so rodents cannot remove. Antidote available. Snap traps are best practice. Current contractor is Exact Pest Control.

Exhibit B

City of Galena Integrated Pest Management Hierarchy

