

IPM MEETING

BISD Board Room

5.03.17

PRESENT: Dana Coggon, Logan Fenwick, Max Gordinier, Dianne Speers, Bernie Mejia, Logan Fenwick, Dane Fenwick, Branden Olalia, Lance Kirby, Chris Rauch, Carrie Morgan, Charles Schafer, Dale Spoor

ABSENT: Russell Milbrot

INTRODUCTIONS

A packet of materials distributed included the minutes from the meeting May 6, 2016, the BISD Policies and Procedures 6522 with proposed revisions, the "Specticle" label and chemical ingredients and website images of the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) and the Pesticide Action Network (PAN).

MEETING STRUCTURE

A spontaneous discussion with regard to repetitious presentations by Dana Coggon resulted in a new idea for next year's meeting. Dana and others who attend the BISD meetings are required to attend city and metro parks meetings. It would be mutually beneficial and lead to more consistent policies and procedures island-wide if one IPM meeting included all island participants. Dana could get continuing education credits for our grounds staff if we met as a larger group.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE CHANGES

The District has identified only one product that they could possibly use as an effective pre-emergent and weed killer. Following BISD IPM Policy and Procedures, the product Specticle is acceptable on all criteria with the exception of soil half-life. Charles Schafer commented that given the human resource limitations and amount of property to be maintained, the District grounds maintenance responsibilities are overwhelming. Product is necessary to control weeds, reducing some of the demands on the grounds manual labor to make expectations on their workload more reasonable.

The BISD Maintenance Lead, Bernie Mejia, proposes 2 changes to the current IPM Procedure P6522;

- Remove the term "no possible" from the Criteria and Protocol Item 2, a-d, as this has made any product impossible to use. The words "no probable, no known and no suspected" would remain.
- Remove or change 2e "no products that have a soil half-life greater than 100 days". The amount of chemical with longer soil life is less than 1% (.89% Diquate Dibromide and .089% Indaziflam). Dana explained that with the correct use of product there is no danger to the soil. The chemical components with longer soil half-life are not mobile and bind tightly to the soil which actually makes them less harmful to the environment.

BISD would use herbicides, at the most, twice a year, per site. This is well below the threshold of environmental harm.

A discussion of the treatment of threatening insects concluded that ground wasps are the most difficult to eliminate without the use of product. Dale Spoor suggested using a water hose and soaking the nest for several days in a row. However, there is not always enough time to treat threatening insects any way other than the use of product.

USING THE NPIC WITH THE PAN WEBSITE

Dale Spoor and others agreed with Carrie Morgan that the PAN (Pesticide Action Network) can be difficult to follow. She suggests that the district use the NPIC (National Pesticide Information Center) to supplement chemical and product information when making pesticide use decisions.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Dana Coggon presented to the IPM Committee. The Noxious Weed Control Department is to plant life like the Centers for Disease Control is to humans. The CDC treats Ebola like Noxious Weed Control treats invasive species that threaten

other plant life. Noxious Weed Control treats areas differently depending on their proximity to water or whether they are residential, public entities or cities. Last year they treated 2,045 residential properties and all properties experienced a significant reduction in regrowth, including the BISD Maintenance area. Most sites were reduced by approximately 40% last year.

The “Gateway” weed that brought Noxious weed Control to Bainbridge Island was Knotweed in 2012. Knotweed is a triple threat because it spreads through its root system, shoots and seeds. This plant is prevalent in the ball fields. Volunteers tried pulling but this plant sends shoots and will proliferate more when pulled.

Often noxious weeds and invasive species such as horsetail are brought to a site through the mulch. Other unexpected carriers of seed can be decorative rocks and gravel.

Several varieties of plants have been added to the invasive and noxious weed category. They include;

Old Man’s Beard	Poison Hemlock
Italian Arum	Teasel
Yellow Archangel	Butterfly Bush
Italian Bugloss	Canadian Thistle
Spurge Laurel	Alstrimaria

Conversation regarding chemicals included; Glyphosate has been publicly banned from over the counter purchase, in California. Licensed applicators are still allowed to use it. This ruling is justified because the general public over use chemicals and apply them too often and in such concentrated quantities that they are environmentally unsafe. Licensed applicators are held to a higher standard.

LET’S PULL TOGETHER (LPT) BAINBRIDGE/ SCOTCH BROOM ERADICATION

The LPT is an initiative of Sustainable Bainbridge which coordinates community efforts to rid the island of the invasive Scotch Broom. The LPT is a five year project started in 2013 and ending this year. They are looking to fundraise to continue the program beyond 2017.

There has not been any Scotch Broom removal on BISD properties this year. LPT is actively looking for umbrella organizations such as BHS Boosters to act as liaison between LPT and the individual clubs.

The island-wide invasive clean-up with the Bainbridge Island Land Trust (BILT) at Bainbridge Disposal every Sunday in April was successful. Islanders brought in over 250 yards of Scotch Broom (50 more than the previous year). Other groups that organized pulls include; Ultimate Frisbee, Scout Troops and the Mountain Biking Club. Numbers at a pull site can range between 30 and 50 people pulling Scotch Broom.

One of the biggest challenges is the disposal of the invasive species. Currently, the pulled plants must be taken to Purdy or Mason for hot composting. The LPT is working towards funding a designated hot compost for disposal of island invasive species to contain the spread of invasive species through transportation of the plant waste off island.

POLLINATION IMPROVEMENT PATHWAY

Charles Schafer worked towards having a teaching hive installed at Commodore school. The project did not materialize because parents were concerned about allergies to bee stings. Another project requiring student hive maintenance fell short when the kids failed to regularly feed the bees.

Charles Schafer shared an article with the group entitled “The Politics of Killing Bees” which lists the various harmful pesticides used over the years. The article credits IPM policies with having the desire to reduce pesticide use and human intrusion into the ecosystem.

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS

The committee recommends the following;

- It was suggested that next year we attempt to combine our IPM meeting with the city and metro parks. Dana will look into coordinating this for next year.
- If the meeting is combined, she will forward the necessary paperwork to receive continuing education credits.
- Capstone will be applied as a herbicide this summer per the two-year Board approved agreement in 2015.
- The District will purchase the Capstone.
- The Noxious Weed Control applicators will apply the herbicide.
- Dale Spoor and Dianne Speers will meet to discuss IPM Procedure change wording and then meet with Mariah Mason. Included changes would be that product would be used no more than 4 times a year.
- Upon Procedure changes, the herbicide, *Specticle*, will be applied directly following school closure for summer and just prior to the start of school, in late August.
- The use of *Specticle* will be presented to the board as “information only”.
- Posting per IPM Procedures 48 hours prior and 24 hours after application.
- The IPM annual letters to parents and staff will include the additional herbicide products.
- The District will continue their current use of product to treat threatening insects. A revision to the current IPM policy is necessary to be consistent with the current procedures.
- The district will further research the use of the NPIC (National Pesticide Information Center) website as to supplement current information regarding pesticide use.
- The Grounds department has noted the old and new varieties of invasive species and will watch for them to alert the Noxious Weed Control before they treat BISD properties.
- The Facilities department will contact umbrella organizations that can connect LPT with club fundraising groups.

CONTACT LIST;

Dana Coggon	dcoggan@co.kitsap.wa.us
Max Gordinier	stopscotchbroom@gmail.com
Bernie Mejia	bmejia@bisd303.org
Carrie Morgan	cmorgan@bisd303.org
Charles Schafer	schaferlandscape@gmail.com
Dianne Speers	dspeers@bisd303.org
Dale Spoor	dale.spoor27@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted by,
Dianne Speers