

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROCEDURE

Statement of Philosophy.

The community and the Park District are increasingly aware of the environmental issues that affect the quality of life. It is the intent of the Park District to assume a leadership role in the development and use of sound environmental policies, practices and educational opportunities.'

By incorporating the following environmental principles, practices and procedures and by prescribing to our statement of philosophy, the Park District shall set a high standard of leadership and competency in maintaining and improvement the quality of the environment.

Environmental Principles.

The Park District will to the greatest extent practicable:

- A. Promote the acquisition, protection and environmentally sensitive management of open space and natural habitat areas.
- B. Protect, enhance and interpret the historic natural resource heritage exemplified by the Waukegan lakefront, ravines, bluffs, prairie remnants and woodlands.
- C. Design, develop and maintain parks, facilities and natural areas in a manner that enhances and protects the environment through conservation of soil, water and energy; by minimizing the adverse impact on air and water quality; by reducing waste; and by utilizing in the most efficient manner possible.
- D. Encourage recycling practices that utilize renewable resources and minimize the use of non-renewable ones.
- E. Practice integrated pest management, which reduces or eliminates the park district dependence on pesticides.
- F. Abide by the federal and state Endangered Species Protection Acts in order to avoid adverse impacts on endangered or threatened species during park district operations.
- G. Functions as a role model within the community by actively promotion public awareness and educational programs that encourage environmentally sensitive lifestyles.

Environmental Practices.

- A. The Park District shall develop relations and agreements with public and private organizations and individuals in order to have open space and natural habitats preserved and or managed.
- B. The Park District will adequately plan and construct using the latest available information, new and renovated open space areas and facilities. These projects will not negatively impact the environment and will conserve soil, water and energy resources, and protect indoor and outdoor air quality.
- C. The Park District has determined that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of persons using park district buildings and vehicles that smoking be prohibited.
 1. Building. Smoking is prohibited in all buildings owned or controlled by the park district, except in designated areas.
 2. Vehicles. Smoking is prohibited in all motor vehicles owned, leased or otherwise used by the park district to transport members of the public.
 3. Signs. *No Smoking* signage shall be appropriately posted in all public areas of the park district.
- D. The Park District recognizes the importance of both safe and attractive parks and open space and has established a balanced Integrated Pest Management Program. This program utilizes cultural methods that include:
 1. Select appropriate plant species and their proper location.
 2. Use of preventive maintenance procedures.
 3. Promote early detection of problems.
 4. Utilize natural control methods, where possible.
 5. Test for better application methods.
 6. Minimize overall pesticide use.Where and when pesticide use in necessary, the standardized and uniform procedures will be adhered to for the application and safe handling of pesticides.

- Administration. The park district will comply with the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act and the Illinois Department of Agriculture regulating governing the use of pesticides. Compliance includes state certification of all employees involved with the implementation of this program.
 - Education. Staff will participate in training sessions sponsored by affiliated professional park organizations designed to improve the supervision, safe handling and application of pesticides.
 - Characteristics. Pesticides used by the park district in the form of herbicides, insecticides or fungicides will be of the General Use classification. Restricted Use pesticides are prohibited.
 - Notification. Pesticide application notices will be posted 24 hours prior to the treatment and will remain up until 24 hours after completion of treatment. Posting will otherwise comply with Illinois EPA requirements for the application of pesticides.
 - Application. General use pesticides used by the park district and registered with the Federal EPA will always be used according to specific label directions and procedures to ensure safe and effective application, storage and disposal.
 - Calibration of equipment and application rates will be according to manufacturer's recommendations so that minimal amounts of pesticides are applied.
- E. The park district is committed to reducing solid waste by utilizing renewable or reusable as well as minimizing its dependence on non-renewable ones. Achievement of the following objectives will be targeted:
 1. Maximize aluminum collection at all indoor facilities and expand collection to all developed parks.
 2. Increased paper collection by recycling newspapers and all office paper types at indoor facilities.
 3. Continue recycling of trees as wood chips and firewood.
 4. Compost all leaves, grass and other landscape materials.
 5. Maximize used oil collection.
 6. Incorporate glass recycling at all indoor facilities and developed parks.
 7. Used recycled paper to the greatest feasible extent.
 8. Use recycled products, such as Durawood, biodegradable bags, recycled paper, etc. in all feasible situations.
 9. Continue the use of paper products in place of Styrofoam or plastic, and phase out environmentally damaging products.
 10. Recycle batteries, antifreeze and Freon whenever feasible.
- F. Comply with all other applicable federal, state and local regulations and guidelines.
- G. The Park District will attach the Environmental Policy and Procedures to all bidding documents. All contractors and commercial users engaged in business with the Park District will be required to comply with these procedures.
- H. The park district will encourage other park districts and affiliated agencies to adopt similar policies and procedures, and become responsible environmental stewards.

Policy adopted September 14, 2004
 Procedures effective September 14, 2004

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