

## Integrated Pest Management Committee Meeting

January 14, 2011

### Attendees:

Rosalind Harris	GSA, Special Services
Patrick Squires	GSA, Security/Custodial
Kelley Thomas	GSA, Special Services
Damon Wing	BOS, Linda Parks Office
Ron Whitehurst	Rincon Vitova
Juan Cardenas	Quality Landscape
Steve Offerman	BOS, Steve Bennett
Paul Young	GSA, Maintenance
Kelli Carney	GSA, Maintenance
Scott Bucy	GSA, Landscape
Pam Lindsey	Public Works, Watershed Protection District
Dan Thrower	GSA, Procurement
Ronnalee Riley	HCA, Ambulatory Care
Ewelina Mutkowska	Public Works, Watershed Protection District

### LEED Presentation - by Paul Young. Q&A followed.

Patrick Squires asked Paul Young if all County buildings will be certified. Paul said that yes, they hoped to address one building a year. Ron Whitehurst asked Paul what LEED gives you. Is it just perks or feel good or is there something substantial. Paul said that it helps to look at operations, scheduling, and decision on infrastructure. The Vanguard building was 20 years old. It needed a new roof, air conditioning and air balancing. They used LEED as a guide. The cost was minimal because of the energy conservation. From an energy stand point it may cost more but it does improve indoor air quality. Rosalind Harris asked how LEED and IPM requirements relate. If there was any variance. Paul said that there is very little variance. They match well. As for storm water requirements, they should mesh well with LEED. Ewelina Mutkowska said that she will get together with Paul and Scott Bucy and present something at the next IPM meeting regarding storm water. Steve Offerman asked if they had received any feedback from the employees of the building. Paul said that would have been great but the response was about 1% to 2% of the 300 employees. Paul and his group did send out training materials i.e. video clips and emails of what was happening to the building. Paul spoke with the Building Committee Members and they were in support of the LEED certification. Steve Offerman said that it was good for the community to know about what is being done and that it is healthful for the employees. Ron Whitehurst mentioned that if Paul was interested in some feedback that the sick leave reports for

the employees in the building will probably show some change as far as respiratory illnesses go. Paul also mentioned that they are tracking the energy star ratings of the county buildings.

Ron Whitehurst of Rincon Vitova spoke on ant bait stations for Landscape areas. The ants are attracted to the bait. The bait traps are low risk, sugar water, boric acid and a small amount of toxin and they are accepted in organic programs. The bait is taken back to the colony and knocks it out. It is a very effective strategy. Santa Clara County uses the bait traps and is very happy with the results. If you need help with biological controls, low risk materials they can help. Ron handed out a sheet on ant control and a booklet regarding ant control. Steve Offerman asked what time of year the ants are most active. Ron said that because of our moderate temperatures ants are always active; however, during the summer they will typically stay outdoors. It is during the Fall and the rainy season that they will seek refuge indoors. Pam Lindsey said that they have a Natural Plant Nursery and they have a real problem with ants. They want to make sure that they are not planting ants along with the plants. Pam said that Ron's bait traps sound like just the thing. The California Integrated Pest Control representative had an elaborate system that would kill active ants and exclude new ones. It is important that we not send argentine ants into the environment. Scott Bucy mentioned that ant control is the best pest control.

Video entitled "Reducing the Effects of Storm water Runoff" – Video was shown as a prelude to the next agenda item.

Best Management Practices Storm Drain Discharge – Scott Bucy's presentation was very thorough. Scott discuss the \_ hillside. Rosalind asked about how to report violations on NPDES 1991 Permit Violations. It can be done by the Hotline, phone or [vcstormwater.org](http://vcstormwater.org). He also mentioned that the County of Ventura tracks it use of pesticides and what we use as well as conducting weather forecasting to aid in the reduction of chemical run-off. There were no further questions or comments.

Pest Management/Control RFP - Dan Thrower spoke next on Pest Management/Control RFP. There are many new legal requirements to IPM. We are changing the contracts to meet this requirement. Procurement is setting up codes based on storm water requirement clauses. Clauses will not need to be added to the Purchase Order, it will be automatically added. The IPM committee can be the fore runner in this area by setting standards countywide for all agencies and departments to follow. Rosalind will be working with Procurement regarding standardizing clauses for all Agencies and department usage so the vendor will know and can be held responsible if they do not comply with the requirements.

Ewelina Mutkowska shared a story she was told about a contractor that was hired to do some drilling. The contractor cleaned up the area they had been working in and placed it in the enclosed vehicle. They left and the city inspector being suspicious, decided to follow them. He discovered them throwing debris from the site clean up into the creek.

#### Whats New in GSA:

Tarps vs. Plastic Bags: By using 7'X7' reusable burlap tarps instead of large plastic bags for handling our green waste we were able to save several thousand dollars a year. The burlap bags are fully organic and recyclable as green waste.

Recyclable Bark Mulch: At the south entrance to the PTDF the Grounds Department in conjunction with 1-Sunny Landscape installed weed free plastic and recycled tire mulch. The recycled mulch looks very realistic, will retain its color and has an extremely long life.

Synthetic Turf: Synthetic Sod was also installed at the south entrance to the PTDF, The turf saves water and labor. The Guaranteed life is at least ten years. The cost to install the Turf is around \$9-10.00 per square foot. Replacement cost are expected to be around \$6.00 a square foot. Preparation of the soil beneath the turf is a large part of the initial cost.

IPM in Housekeeping - Patrick Squires gave a brief introduction on IPM in Housekeeping and the need for IPM for building interiors as well as the exterior plans. They work in combination, as the goal is to keep the pests from entering the buildings, and the safest way to deal with them if they do get in. Some of the differences include the need to control flying insects indoors, dealing with hearty indoor pests (such as roaches) and steps to control vermin if they infiltrate the building. Patrick will be presenting this topic at the next IPM meeting.

#### Roundtable:

Ewelina Mutkowska asked for the IPM document to be sent to her. Rosalind informed her that it was on the GSA website but that Kelley Thomas has volunteered to send her the link.

Pam Lindsey said they are working towards having their vehicles cleaned between each job. There are micro-invertebrates, micro-organisms and other hazardous materials that can be transported from one location to another inadvertently on

vehicles, shoes etc. They are working on developing a process whereby once the workers have finished in an area, they need to have their vehicles cleaned before it can be used in another area, limiting the chances of transporting micro-invertebrates, micro-organisms and other hazardous material from one site to another. Pam will be putting together a "Most Wanted" list of plants that need to be eradicated such as the Giant Reed and Fountain Grass (*Penisetum setaceum*). Ron said that you can clean boots and equipment by steam cleaning them at 140 degrees for 10 seconds. Steve Offerman said that farmers were having problems with this as well. They found they were transporting micro organisms from one farm to another. Scott Bucy said that the farmers go together to form the Agriculture Irrigated Lands Group. They take samples of water in the area. The growers are required to attend seminars on how to use recycled water etc. This affects everyone. Damon Wing mentioned that the county has required no litigation because we have cooperation.

Handouts:

Agenda

Best Management Practices Storm Drain Discharge – Power Point Notes

Ant Bait Information

Rincon-Vitova, Catalog of Beneficials, 2009-2010

CC: ADD From my notes