

CITY OF EDMONTON INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

The City of Edmonton runs a number of pest management programs to manage a wide range of pests, such as plant diseases, invasive non-native pests, stinging/biting insects, rodents, and water borne disease. Pest management activities occur in parks, school grounds, sports fields, boulevards, roadway buffers, and vacant City land. All our programs follow the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which means using preventative methods (e.g., monitoring for new pests, increasing turf health), and non-chemical control methods (e.g., mowing, weed pulling, pruning) first before applying chemical pesticides as a last resort.

KEY POINTS OF OUR PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

To reduce weed growth, the City of Edmonton uses cultural methods such as fertilizing, top-dressing, and aerating. For actual weed control, City staff mow turf areas and manually remove weeds. Herbicide use is sometimes the most effective way to control weeds where control is required by provincial legislation or where the infestation exceeds City standards for parkland areas. It is important to note that herbicides are not used within 30 meters of playgrounds, skate parks and registered day-cares. If applications on school sports fields are required, they are restricted to the months July and August.



Garlic mustard weed pull

The mosquito control program targets mosquito larvae in standing water. In residential areas and parkland a biological insecticide, harmless to citizens, is used. In some industrial areas chemical insecticide use is required.

Other wildlife such as stinging insects, insect pests on trees, ground squirrels, and coyotes may also be controlled (sometimes on school grounds) when they pose a threat to citizens or cause unacceptable damage.



Pesticide application – tree injection

BEST PRACTICES IN PESTICIDE USE

The City of Edmonton is aware of public concerns and is always evaluating new ways to reduce pesticide use. All pest control products and procedures used meet strict Health Canada standards and City employees are trained and certified in accordance to Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development standards. As a result of the City's approach, the majority of Edmonton's parkland is free of pesticide exposure.

To further address concerns about pesticide exposure, the following table provides the City's annual pest management activity plan, which lists planned pest management programs with possible pesticide applications. For more detailed and current information about pesticide use in your area, call our **Spray Line at 780-423-1378**. Have a wonderful and green growing season!

PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS INCLUDING PESTICIDE USE – ACTIVITY PLAN

PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS		APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Weeds	Weeds in shrub beds		X	X	X	X	X	X
	Weeds in industrial areas such as LRT tracks		X	X	X	X	X	
	Weeds in turf and hard surface		X	X	X	X	X	X
	Invasive weeds		X	X	X	X	X	X
	Weeds on school grounds				X	X		
Other pests	Mosquitoes	X	X	X	X	X		
	Rodents		X	X	X	X	X	
	Insect pests of trees		X	X	X	X	X	
	Yellow jacket wasps			X	X	X	X	
	Human pathogens (outdoor water sports events)			X	X			

For more information on our integrated pest management programs, please visit www.edmonton.ca/pests, or call 311.