



CITY OF OLYMPIA  
BIGELOW PARK

**OLYMPIA'S PESTICIDE-FREE PARKS PROGRAM**  
**JANUARY 16, 2020**

# Background

2006 – Resolution to reduce use of pesticides by the City

Calls for City to phase out, over time, the purchase and use of products that contribute to toxic pollution

## Benefits:

- Environmental
- Public health
- Employee health

RESOLUTION NO. M-1621

A RESOLUTION adopting strategies and guidelines to reduce and/or eliminate, over time, the purchase and use of pesticides and persistent toxic chemicals by the City of Olympia.

WHEREAS the City of Olympia has adopted principles of sustainability and is committed to protecting human and environmental health by using precautionary approaches to preventing pollution; and

WHEREAS many chemicals, such as mercury, dioxins, PCBs, and PBDEs remain in the environment for long periods of time, and build-up in humans, fish, and animals; and

WHEREAS these chemicals have been linked to significant health problems, and

WHEREAS the use of pesticides can harm human and environmental health through long-term impacts, and have harmful effects on our ecosystems, particularly wildlife and their habitat; and;

WHEREAS adverse environmental and health effects can be attenuated by phasing out of products that contain persistent toxic chemicals or create persistent toxic pollution during production, use, or disposal; and

WHEREAS the City has permanently eliminated the use of all pesticides noted on the Washington State Department of Ecology's PBT List in Ecology's Proposed Rule concerning Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxins Regulation; and

WHEREAS the City departments have already made tremendous strides in reducing toxics in the environment by educating the public on the hazards of dangerous chemicals; and

WHEREAS the City is committed to pursuing a goal that phases out, over time, the purchase and use of products contributing to persistent toxic pollution; and

WHEREAS the City of Olympia can continue to lead by example through its efforts to reduce the amount of pesticides and chemicals used in its daily operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City of Olympia is committed to pursuing a goal that phases out, over time, the purchase and use of products contributing to persistent toxic pollution. The City intends to accomplish this goal by:

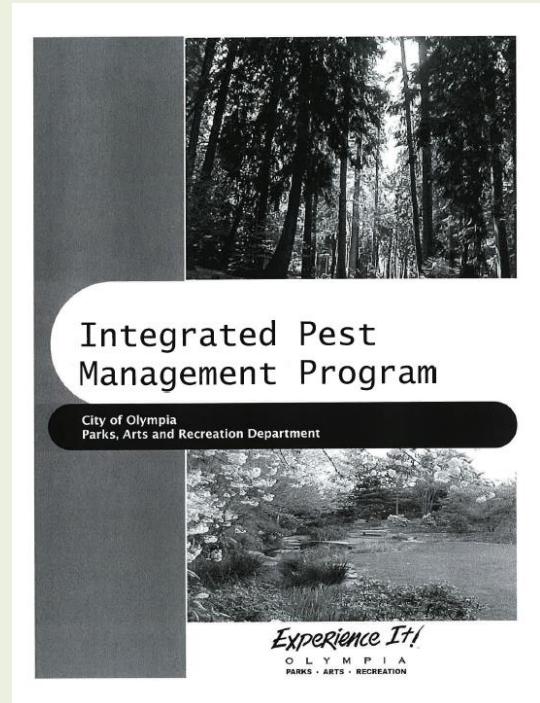
- A. Reviewing the work of other state and local governments concerning the creation of an inventory of products that contain persistent toxic pollution or result in persistent toxic pollution during their manufacture, use and disposal.

RESOLUTION/REDUCING TOXIC POLLUTANTS – Page 1 of 3

# Background

## 2006 – Integrated Pest Management Program

- Physical, mechanical, cultural, biological, and least-toxic chemical strategies
- Examples:
  - Mowing high/letting it lie
  - Pest-resistant plants
  - Turf management - fertilizing, controlled irrigation, overseeding, aeration
  - Calsense computerized irrigation
  - For weeds – mulching, hand pulling, flame burning



# Pesticide-Free Parks Pilot

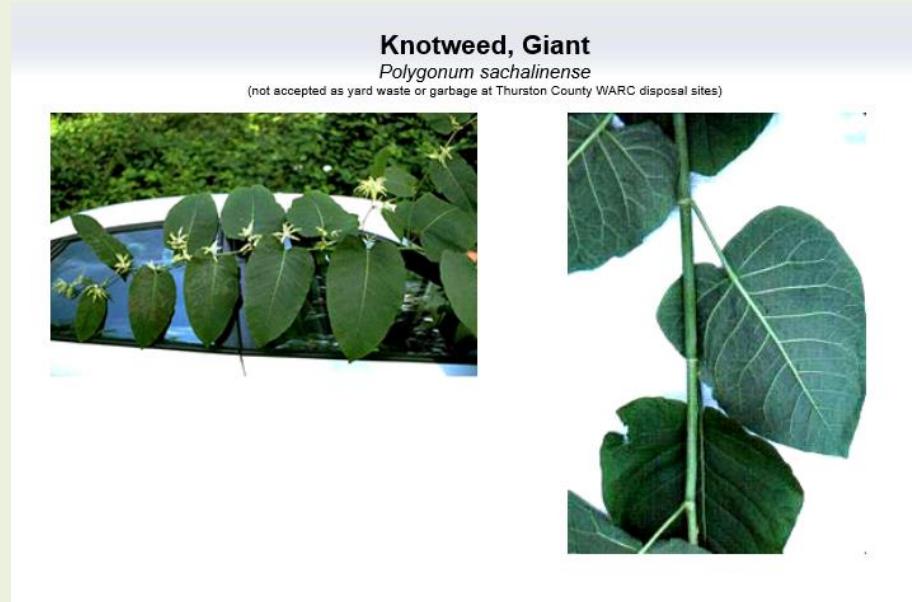
## 2014 Pilot Program – 6 Neighborhood Parks

- Bigelow
- Decatur Woods
- Harry Fain's Legion
- Lions
- Sunrise
- Woodruff



# Exceptions

- Public health/safety concerns
- County-mandated noxious weed control:
  - Knotweed
  - Poison Hemlock
  - Tansy Ragwort
  - Spotted Knapweed



# Pesticide-Free Parks Expansion

- Stinging Insect Collection



# Pesticide-Free Parks Expansion

- Weed burning



# Pesticide-Free Parks Expansion

- Vinegar-based weed killers



# Pesticide-Free Parks Expansion

## 2019 – Expanded to all Olympia Parks

- Bigelow
- Decatur Woods
- Harry Fain's Legion
- Lions
- Sunrise
- Woodruff
- 8th Avenue
- Chambers Lake
- Kaiser Woods
- Bigelow Springs
- Burri Park
- Cooper Crest
- East Bay Waterfront
- Evergreen Park Drive
- Friendly Grove
- Garfield Nature Trail
- Grass Lake Nature Park
- Harrison Avenue Parcel
- Isthmus Parcels
- Karen Fraser Woodland Trail
- Kettle View
- LBA
- Madison Scenic
- Margaret McKenny
- McGrath Woods
- Mission Creek
- Percival Landing
- Priest Point
- Springwood Dr. Parcel
- Stevens Field
- Trillium
- Ward Lake
- Watershed
- West Bay Woods
- Yashiro Japanese Garden
- Yauger
- Heritage Park Fountain
- West Bay

# Questions?

