

# Safe Public Places



In 1991 Oregon became one of the first states to protect the public by using safer alternatives to toxic pesticides on public property. That all ended in 2001 and now it's time to bring this law back.

Pesticides are a public and environmental health problem, linked to tragic disease and environmental damage. That's why, in 2009, Oregon adopted a law to reduce toxic pesticides at all Oregon schools by using the industry standard: Integrated Pest Management, or IPM.

The State of Oregon should do the same for all public places. If the schools can do it, so can state agencies, office buildings and parks.

The proposed IPM policy for the State of Oregon applies only to public property, not to private land. It requires the State to use discretion when managing pests, such as insects and weeds, by considering non-toxic methods first, using pesticides only when necessary, and choosing the least toxic product to get the job done if pesticides are needed.

IPM is a proven approach to protect our health, preserve the environment and ensure our rivers continue to support salmon and provide safe drinking water.

IPM would also help us meet our state's pollution reduction goals and help Oregon remain a national leader in innovative policies.

By supporting this renewed State of Oregon IPM policy, you will help protect children and families who use our parks and help keep nearly 200,000 State of Oregon employees healthier and more productive.

## *Integrated Pest Management will...*

### *Protect Children's Health*

Children are more susceptible to environmental hazards than adults. Pesticide exposure is especially harmful because a child's brain, nervous and reproductive systems are still growing. The EPA states: One of the most effective ways you can help prevent pesticide poisonings is by adopting Integrated Pest Management practices to reduce children's exposure to pesticides. IPM is a safer method of pest management. Families who visit state buildings and parks deserve to know that Oregon is dedicated to protecting children by using only the safest and least toxic methods of pest management.

### *Save Oregon Money*

IPM methods save money by increasing efficiency and removing duplicative programs. The latest research shows that using IPM is a more effective long-term form of pest management.

### *Protect the Environment*

Reducing the amount of toxic pesticides on public property will keep thousands of gallons of chemical runoff from contaminating Oregon's rivers, soils and air. It's the responsible option for our citizens, our wildlife and our water.



Help this campaign be a success. Visit us at:

[www.SafePublicPlaces.org](http://www.SafePublicPlaces.org)

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