

# IPM Code of Practice

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*IPM accredited companies and organizations will:*

- 1** | *Agree* to follow the *IPM Code of Practice*.
- 2** | *Focus* their businesses on the promotion and implementation of cultural practices such as using optimum soil depth and quality, suitable turf varieties, over-seeding, proper mowing heights, watering, fertilizing, aeration and de-thatching as components for maintaining healthy lawns and preventing pest problems.
- 3** | *Encourage, educate and solicit* the assistance of the property owner/manager in ensuring that optimum cultural practices are followed.
- 4** | *Monitor* customers' lawns for pest infestation at regular intervals, maintain a log of observations and provide the collected monitoring data in support of a province-wide monitoring network and database. This information will be relayed to a provincial monitoring database every two weeks from March to November.
- 5** | *Support* the principles of Integrated Pest Management as defined by Health Canada:  
**Integrated Pest Management or IPM "is a decision-making process that uses all necessary techniques to suppress pests effectively, economically and in an environmentally sound manner to sustain healthy landscapes."**  
**The elements of IPM include:**
  - **Identifying potential pest organisms**
  - **Monitoring pest and beneficial organism populations, pest damage, and environmental conditions**
  - **Managing ecosystems to prevent organisms from becoming pests**
  - **Managing pest populations using strategies that combine biological, cultural, mechanical, behavioural, and when necessary, chemical control**
- 6** | *Support* mandatory IPM re-certification for all licensed employees.
- 7** | *Document* pesticide reduction and pesticide alternative strategies through IPM and agree to monitor and keep records of pesticide use (active ingredient per square metre) for audit purposes.
- 8** | *Offer* a pesticide-free alternative to customers who choose not to use pesticides.
- 9** | *Not apply* pesticides unnecessarily.
- 10** | *Not sell* programs that are based on numerous pesticide applications, but rather encourage programs based on IPM-PHC.
- 11** | *Use* pesticides **only** after rigorous examination (monitoring) and diagnosing, and in combination with additional horticultural measures.
- 12** | *Prepare* all sites for proper application; *i.e.* remove items from the lawn, *etc.*
- 13** | *Apply* treatments that are properly timed to maximize effectiveness. Preventative treatments are discouraged and will only be used based on pest history as locally monitored. A province-wide monitoring system will also be utilized.
- 14** | *Utilize spot treatments* for the control of weeds and insects. Blanket applications are used only if warranted.
- 15** | *Implement* an effective staff training and safety procedure.
- 16** | *Apply* pesticides **only** to **target** areas.
- 17** | *Implement buffer zones* (where necessary) when making applications adjacent to sensitive sites.