



## **Pesticide Industry Regulatory Council**

### **IPM-EHC Council of Ontario**

Toll Free Assistance: 1-800-615-9813

Mailing Address: 1 Renny Cres London ON N6E 2C4

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### **PIRC / IPM-EHC Council of Ontario Sustainable Development and IPM Policy**

As an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) licensed professional, I recognize our individual and united responsibility to publicly speak out on environmental issues to safeguard our ecosystem. I agree to adopt an ecosystem approach to environmental protection and resource management. This approach views the ecosystem as composed of air, land, water, and living organisms, including humans, and the interactions among them.

As an IPM Accredited member of the Integrated Pest Management Environmental Health Care Council of Ontario, (IPM-EHC Council), administered by its lawful governing body, the Pesticide Industry Regulatory Council, (PIRC), through the Ontario Integrated Pest Management Association (OIPMA), officially recognized by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, (MOE), I acknowledge my responsibility to contribute to the social and environmental well being of our country, province and municipality.

I agree to support and promote “sustainable development”, which means economic growth that is environmentally sound to prevent harm to the environment. I will uphold Canada’s laws, traditions, and shared environmental values that became better protected in 1982 under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and in 1994 under Ontario’s Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) and its Statement of Environmental Values (SEV).

I agree to respect everyone’s rights and freedoms to speak out to express their ideas and opinions in regards to sustainable development, which views may differ from my own. I recognize our collective and individual responsibility to provide all levels of government and the public understandable environmental information to achieve correctly directed environmental action regarding responsible pesticide use that will enhance the quality of our lives and that of future generations through equitable laws and equality under the law. I will respect the rule of law and work through due process to eliminate laws that discriminate to protect the legal rights of all persons to life, liberty and security of person.

I recognize that our individual and collective pest management experiences credibly equips us to assist all government levels to develop workable laws that will achieve environmentally sound economic growth that is fiscally responsible and financially affordable to the benefit of all Ontarians. In making decisions, I will use science that meets the demanding standards of the scientific community, support scientific research, the application of technologies, processes and services, and the development of green industries in Ontario consistent with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment’s SEV under the EBR.

In my professional evaluations I will exercise a precautionary approach that will take into account all environmental risk factors in favour of the environment based on Health Canada’s updated re-evaluations, label recommendations, and known effective alternatives in my decision-making. I will take into account all reasonable product uncertainty, safety issues, and concerns expressed by Health Canada, and also increased smog caused by ineffective treatments or needless repeated vehicle trips brought about by inappropriate IPM applications.



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I acknowledge my responsibility to provide environmentally sound pest management advice and services that meets the stringent requirements of the scientific community, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, (PMRA), federal Pest Control Product Act, and Ontario's Pesticides Act. I will take into account all alternatives and IPM strategies to create a healthy environment consistent with Health Canada's published Action Plan for Urban Use Pesticides.

I will in my decision making incorporate the elements of IPM that include: identifying potential pests and pest organisms; monitoring pest populations; pest damage and environmental conditions; managing ecosystems to prevent organisms from becoming pests; managing pest populations using strategies that combine biological, cultural, mechanical, behavioral and as necessary, prudent use of least risk chemical controls.

I will focus on promotion and implementation of plant health care cultural practices where possible that includes using optimum soil depth and quality, composting, suitable turf varieties, overseeding, mulching, proper mowing, watering, fertilizing, aeration and dethatching as components for maintaining healthy lawns and preventing pest problems.

I will uphold the rights and freedoms of applicators to join and establish professional trade organization(s) to represent their interests through our two industry councils as the pest management industry's official representatives in the MOE streamlined early consultation process along with their affiliated IPM Council to the benefit of all Ontarians.

I agree to document my IPM pesticide usage, alternative strategies, and to monitor and keep records of annual pesticide usage that follows industry and government guidelines as implemented by my organization's governing council body.

I agree that monitoring techniques will be used to discourage unnecessary treatments and to anticipate potential pest problems based on pest history in combination with local and province-wide monitoring. I will offer customers a pesticide-free alternative and implement buffer zones (as required) when making applications to sensitive sites. I will utilize spot treatment for the control of pests (i.e. insects and weeds) and use blanket applications only after meeting industry and regulatory body accepted thresholds following label directions to reduce unnecessary applications. I will monitor and maintain a log of observations on all customer's premises and or property.

I agree not to advertise more than two weed applications, prudently applied, as required, in any annual lawn care program. I agree not to sell programs based on numerous pesticide applications, but rather encourage programs based on IPM environmental principles and cultural plant health care practices.

I recognize my responsibility to participate in my organizations' PIRC recorded regulatory, IPM technology, and least risk pesticide continuing education programs and to incorporate this annual updating in my company's public education and training programs. I will promote to my employees, clients, and the public the countless benefits of environmental health care, which includes plant health care that is consistent with Health Canada's published Action Plan for Urban Use Pesticides.