

INVITATION TO BID

The Town of Oxford seeks bids for landscape maintenance for the period April 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 with an option for two additional years ending December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2014. Specifications and bidding documents are available at the Selectmen's Office, Oxford Town Hall, 486 Oxford Rd., Oxford, CT. 06478, Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. March 5, 2012, at which time there will be a pre-bid conference. Bids will be publically opened on March 12, 2012 at 2.00 p.m. Services include: mowing, trimming, seeding, fertilizing, weeding, pruning, weed control, pest control, watering, and other associated practices.

BID PROPOSAL FORM

TO: Board of Selectmen
S. B. Church Memorial Town Hall
486 Oxford Road
Oxford, CT. 06478

FOR: In compliance with your Bidding Requirements, the undersigned hereby proposes to furnish all labor, material, equipment and services for the Landscape Maintenance Contract of the Town of Oxford, Connecticut in strict accordance with the Specifications for Landscape Maintenance Contract of the Town of Oxford, CT, dated February 23, 2012, and of all Addenda issued by the Town of Oxford.

- A. Total Bid Price \$_____.
- B. Unit Prices: Attach Completed Unit Price Schedule
- C. Contract Period will commence on April 1, 2012 and terminate on December 31, 2012 unless the Town exercises its option to extend the contract.
- D. Attach Certificate of Liability Insurance Coverage
- E. Attach Certificate of Workmen's Compensation Coverage
- F. Attach a list of all subcontractors to be used to for proposed services
- G. Holding Bid Price: Contractor agrees to hold the bid price and begin work on April 1, 2012 or sooner if requested by the Park and Recreation Director
- H. Per Section 6-10 (D) of the Town of Oxford Charter: The Board of Selectmen may: 1) Reject any or all proposals which they deem not to be in the best interest of the Town and, if necessary, request new proposals; or 2) Negotiate with anyone making a proposal for terms and conditions deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.
- I. Proposal Provisions:
 - 1. In submitting this bid, the undersigned agrees:
 - a. To accept the provisions of the Bid Proposal Form.
 - 2. To execute a contract in the form stipulated, within thirty (20) calendar days after the receipt of the acceptance of this bid.
 - 3. Has acknowledged receipt of all addenda by inserting the number of the last addendum in the proper location herein. Addenda #_____.
 - 4. Declares that this proposal in all interests is fair and made without collusion with any person, firm or corporation making a proposal for this work.
 - 5. Designates an office address to which notice of acceptance may be mailed.

Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

Company: _____
Address: _____
Address: _____

Printed name of individual authorized to sign contracts:

_____ and Title _____

UNIT PRICE SCHEDULE

The following unit prices will constitute bases for additions or deletions to the contract as may be required during the life of the contract. The contract is for three (1) growing seasons with estimates scheduled to coincide with Town of Oxford budget cycles. There is also the option to extend the contract for two additional years as stated above

	4/1/12- 6/30/12	7/1/12- 12/30/12	Option Year 2	Option Year 3
A. All lawn properties:				
1. Mowing & trimming	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. Weed, pest & grub control	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. Aerating	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. Fertilization	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. Seeding	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
6. Lime	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
7. Water & other services (Per contract)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
B. Trees, shrubs & ground cover care:				
1. Pruning	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. Pest & grub control	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. Fertilization	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. Mulching	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

TOTAL BID APRIL 1, 2012 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012 \$ _____

ADDENDA

1. A price for additional work at Oxford High School is requested with all work to be done in accordance with these specifications.

The work will include

- A. Weekly grass cutting of all turf areas and athletic fields currently installed
- B. Monthly mowing of front slope below the athletic fields to the right of the entrance.
- C. Trimming of all fences, trees, buildings, curbs etc.
- D. Air brooming of all sidewalks of clippings.
- E. Reseeding, Aerating, Bed maintenance, Shrub pruning, Mulching, and Fertilizing as listed in the bid specifications.

The contractor will coordinate all work with the Business Manager of the Oxford Board of Education or designee.

Total annual cost for the above listed work.

April 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012 \$ _____

July 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 \$ _____

Cost for option year 1 \$ _____

Cost for option year 2 \$ _____

There may be additional work required as follows:

- A. Layout and weekly painting of playing fields.
- B. Dressing and chalking of all fields for games.

The cost of these items will be negotiated with the Business Manager of the Oxford Board of Education or designee.

The work for Oxford High School will be awarded separately from the entire bid.

PREBID CONFERENCE

There will be a pre-bid conference to answer potential bidder's questions on Monday March 5, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at S. B. Church Town Hall, 486 Oxford Road, Oxford, CT. 06478.

Completed BID PROPOSAL FORM with attachments will be received in the Selectmen's Office until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2012 at which time bids will be opened and TOTAL Bid Prices will be read aloud.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
FOR THE TOWN OF OXFORD, CONNECTICUT, APRIL 1, 2012 TO DECEMBER
31, 2012 WITH OPTIONS FOR TWO ADDITIONAL YEARS

A. General Requirements

1. Work shall consist of that specified herein and shall also include all material, labor and equipment required or necessary to preserve, protect and maintain existing planting.
2. All herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and any other chemicals used in the performance of this contract shall be used in accordance with the standards and regulations set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency, and appropriate state and local regulatory agencies.
3. The Contractor shall furnish the Board of Selectmen copies of all necessary certificates, permits and licenses required to perform these specifications as well as insurance certificates establishing Connecticut Worker's Compensation coverage and Liability Insurance with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 prior to commencement of performance of this contract.

B. Scope of Work

1. The Contractor shall provide all labor, materials, equipment and other services necessary to complete maintenance, as specified in this bid package, of the following landscaped properties or other areas described within the Town of Oxford.
 - a. Town Hall properties
 - b. Kirk's Pond, Dog Pound and adjoining property
 - c. Center Fire House property
 - d. Grange Hall property
 - e. Center School property
 - f. Old Town Hall property (Police Dept.)
 - g. World War I Memorial Park property
 - h. Victory Park property
 - i. Great Oak School property
 - j. Quaker Farms School property
 - k. Public Works Garage property
 - l. Quaker Farms Firehouse property
 - m. Riverside Firehouse property
 - n. Posypanko Park property
 - o. Quaker Farms School and adjacent slopes (5 per year)
 - p. Oxford Glen (includes maintenance and control of sprinkling system)
 - q. Veteran's Memorial
 - r. Ambulance Landscaping Bed
 - s. Jackson Cove Park
 - t. Gazebo (at Center School)
 - u. Tetlak Park
 - v. Oxford Senior Center

NOTE: The Parks and Recreation Commission will need to have additional work done on some of the properties in this proposal. A separate REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL will be issued for that work. The REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL will be issued on the same day as this bid with all dates and time identical to those listed in this bid document. The REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL will be titled "REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – TOWN ATHLETIC FIELD MAINTENANCE."

2. Control, Supervision and Approval Authority

- a. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, Contractor's operations and activities pursuant to this agreement shall be under the control and supervision of the Board of Selectmen (herein referred to as "the Board") or their designated representative, and the Board shall exercise such control and supervision for and on behalf of the Town where so designated in this agreement.

C. Workmanship, Quality and Appearance Level

1. It is the intention of the Town to require the highest level of quality in landscape maintenance compatible with standard practice.
2. The Contractor shall insure that all work under this contract be completed by personnel over the age of eighteen (18) years and be supervised by Contractor-employed supervisory personnel who are technically qualified and possess requisite management skills to implement modern methods.
3. The Contractor shall be responsible for the skill, methods, appearance and action of the Contractor's employees and for all work done. The Contractor shall instruct all of the Contractor's employees that they are not required to respond to questions, suggestions, or instructions from Town employees other than the Board or their designated representative.
4. The Contractor shall perform the work provided for in these specifications under the direction of the Board or their designated representative. The Board or their designated representative may make inspections at any time and may request that the Contractor perform additional work or services to bring Contractor's performance to the level required by this agreement. The Contractor shall cooperate with any representative designated by the Board to enable said Board to determine the Contractor's conformity with the provisions of these specifications and the adequacy of the work being performed.
5. The Contractor shall provide services for special events such as Memorial Day Parade, Summer Concert Series, graduation ceremonies, etc. The Contractor shall also perform services so as not to inconvenience regularly scheduled town events.

D. Materials

1. Fertilizers shall be complete, furnishing the required percentage of ingredients to keep lawns in a healthy and vigorous growing condition.
2. Insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides shall be properly labeled with guarantee analysis, and brought to each job site in a manner compatible with OSHA and DEP Regulations.
3. Lawn seed for reseeding shall be an athletic field mixture.
4. All material shall be furnished at the expense of the Contractor.

E. Lawn Care

1. The Contractor shall maintain all lawn areas on the sites covered by these specifications in a healthy, growing condition by performing the following operations and other work incidental thereto:
2. Soil Analysis. Prior to the spring application of any fertilizers, the Contractor shall, at the Contractor's expense, have soil analysis tests performed at each site, in order to determine if soil deficiencies exist. The Contractor shall submit the results of said soil analysis together with a proposed fertilizing program to the Board's designated representative. If the Contractor determines that the soil analysis tests indicate a need for application of iron, zinc or other trace minerals to correct specific soil deficiencies, such minerals shall be applied by the Contractor.
3. Mowing. Lawn properties shall be mowed once a week or more often, if necessary, to maintain a neat, trim appearance. The Contractor shall remove paper, rubbish or debris from each lawn area prior to mowing. Mowing shall be done only by properly adjusted mowing equipment with sharp edges. Bruising or rough cutting of grass shall not be permitted. "Scalping" shall not be permitted. Mowing heights and scheduled times for mowing shall be coordinated with designated representatives of organizations using those areas.
4. Trimming. All lawn property edges shall be trimmed periodically. This trimming shall include cutting all grass along walls, fences, foundations, curbs, sidewalks, paths, shrubs, tree trunks, poles, guy wires, or any other object or structure within or bordering the lawn properties. The Contractor shall avoid damaging tree trunks, shrubs, buildings and other objects and structures during trimming operations. Any such damage shall be reported immediately to the Board's designated representative.
5. Weeds, Disease and Pest Control. The pesticide application will be provided two (2) times per year. The Contractor shall be responsible for the selection and proper use of insecticides and herbicides and for the specific applications for which the same may be used.
6. Aerating and Renovating. Aeration of lawn properties shall be done in a manner approved by the Board's designated representative and only under dry soil conditions.
7. Fertilizing. Lawn properties shall be fertilized in early spring and mid-fall at times and in areas specified by the Board's designated representative.
8. Seeding. All properties shall be seeded once per year. Seeding will coincide with usage of property.
9. Watering. The following areas shall be watered to maintain a positive appearance for the public:
 - a. Front lawn of Town Hall
 - b. Front lawn of Center School
 - c. Front areas of Center Fire House
 - d. Oxford Glen
10. Fungicide. Application primarily for watered areas to maintain a neat appearance.

F. General Maintenance and Clean-up

1. The Contractor shall keep all ground cover areas around shrubs and trees, next to buildings, fences, benches, sidewalks, paths, curbs and gutters free from weeds, grasses, rocks, glass and other debris. The Contractor is to provide normal service to the areas covered by these specifications and the Town is to provide extra services to effect cleanup of the areas after each of several town sponsored events that are held on various sites covered by this agreement.
2. The Contractor shall report any unsafe or hazardous conditions immediately to the Board's designated representative.

G. Failure to Perform Maintenance

1. The Contractor shall perform landscape maintenance operations and services in accordance with the provisions of these specifications as appropriate, without specific notice or instructions from the Board or the Board's designated representative to do so. If the Board's designated representative determines that the Contractor is negligent in performing specific operations or services, he shall notify the Contractor, in writing, to perform the specified operations or services. Failure by the Contractor to respond to said written notice and to perform said specified operations or services as required by the provisions of this agreement within five (5) working days after receipt of said written notice may result in the Town causing the specified services to be done and deducting the costs thereof from payments due to Contractor.

H. Indemnification - Hold Harmless

1. The Contractor shall save and hold harmless from and against all liability, claims and demands on account of personal injuries (including, without limitation of the foregoing, workmen's compensation and death claims) or property loss or damage of any kind whatsoever, which arise out of or are in any manner connected with, the performance of this contract, regardless of whether such injury, loss or damage shall be caused by, or be claimed to be caused by, the negligence or other fault (a) of Contractor, or (b) of a subcontractor hereunder, or (c) of some other person; or by agents or employees of any of the foregoing; or by accident; or otherwise.

I. Property Damage

- 1. Any Town owned property or private property damaged or altered in any way by the Contractor during performance under the provisions of these specifications shall be reported promptly by the Contractor to the Board's designated representative and shall be restored to its original condition prior to damage. It is understood that property damage includes, but is not limited to, any damage resulting from Contractor's use of fertilizers or pesticides. Such restoration shall be at the Contractor's sole cost and expense and shall be accomplished in a manner and by means first approved by the Board's designated representative.**

- 2. Any damage to Town owned property that is observed by the Contractor whether or not caused by Contractor's performance under the provisions of these specifications, shall be reported promptly by the Contractor to the Board's designated representative.**

**GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR GROUNDS UPKEEP
AND ATHLETIC FIELDS MAINTENANCE**

The following general specifications pertain to all sections of this bid.

1. Work shall be scheduled in a manner to remove potential for injury to students, staff and general public in the area. This shall include posting of an area as being "Closed for Maintenance" when warranted.
2. Contractor will coordinate work schedules with Principals, Athletic Director and/or Park and Recreation Director in an effort to least disrupt the use of the facilities and to ensure proper preparations for scheduled events.
3. Contractor will employ *Integrated Pest Management* (see attachment) techniques and practices. Target pest will be identified and proper action will be taken to insure control when necessary with the minimum use of pesticides.
4. The contractor shall provide material Safety Data sheets for all chemicals and compounds used to the Director of Maintenance for record keeping services.
5. Any damage incurred to shrubs, trees or grass due to negligence or improper use of equipment or materials by the Contractor are the responsibility of the Contractor. The Contractor is to repair or replace any damaged property. Any and all expenses incurred by the Town of Oxford to repair or replace any damaged property will be deducted from payment due to the contractor.
6. Mowing will commence as early as possible and continue as needed until grass stops growing and becomes dormant. (April-November)
7. All grassy areas will be maintained in such a manner as to ensure a neat well kept appearance and in accordance with height of cut specifications stated herein.
8. The Contractor is responsible for policing all area prior to mowing and the Town of Oxford will not be liable for any damage to the contractor's equipment due to debris or foreign objects on the lawns or fields.
9. All paved areas, fence lines, track, walks, infields and surface drains will be kept clear of grass clippings.
10. Any heavy grass cuttings will be removed from grass areas.
11. The contractor is responsible for keeping all stone screening areas, including under and along fence lines and shotput area, free of vegetation at all times. (Great Oak Track)
12. The contractor is responsible for the appearance of the grounds throughout the life of the contract. During off season periods, general cleanup and policing visits will be performed at least once per week.

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Integrated Pest Management: What is It?

A Pollution Prevention Fact Sheet

Integrated Pest Management
Turf IPM Methods
Other Ways to Reduce Waste In Turfgrass Management

Integrated Pest Management or IPM is the use of a variety of pest control methods designed to protect public health and the environment, and to produce high quality ornamental turfgrass with the most judicious use of pesticides.

Turfgrass IPM helps to minimize the use of pesticides through the use of a variety of management techniques. Wherever applicable IPM uses monitoring; pest trapping; action thresholds; resistant varieties and cultivars; cultural, physical and biological controls; and, precise timing and application of any needed pesticides treatments. When other pest control methods fail and pesticides are needed, the safest and most effective materials are selected for use.

Turf IPM methods include the following:

- Regular monitoring or scouting for pest activity of weeds, diseases and insects.
- Record-keeping and development of case history on general turfgrass conditions, including but not limited to soil moisture, depth and compaction; watering practices; turfgrass species present; height of cut; thatch depth; temperature and humidity; and general site conditions.
- Proper identification and evaluation of pest problems and recommendations about the use of correct control techniques. Decisions about type of pest control can be determined by action thresholds and overall turfgrass vigor. The action threshold can often be decided by determining the level of maintenance acceptable to the homeowner.
- Utilize appropriate cultural practices to maintain a vigorous turfgrass and discourage pest infestations. For example: water one to two times per week deeply, not lightly and frequently. Mow frequently enough not to remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade area and when turfgrass is not wet. Fertilize to optimize turfgrass growth and maintain adequate fertility.
- Select turfgrass species and cultivars that are well-adapted to the site where they will be growing.
- Use biological controls as an alternative to pesticides. Beneficial nematodes and milky spore can be used to control some insects of turfgrass.
- Always utilize other control options before using pesticides. When pesticides are needed, select ones that are the least toxic and most effective.

Other Ways to Reduce Waste in Turfgrass Management

Pesticide Waste Reduction. Develop and implement tight inventory controls over stored

pesticides. Order only what is necessary for the current season. Use first in, first out system to use supplies during their shelf life. Store pesticides on pallets or shelves that allow for easy, periodic inspection for damage or leakage. Minimize possibility of spoilage by storing in dry, cool areas, out of direct sunlight.

Container Waste Reduction. Investigate container recycling and reuse opportunities.

Water Conservation. Properly sequence pesticide applications to reduce equipment cleaning time and water usage.

This fact sheet was prepared by the DEP Office of Pollution Prevention in cooperation with the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service. For more information contact the Office of Pollution Prevention at (860) 424-3297, e-mail Pollution Prevention Coordinator, or write to:

Department of Environmental Protection
Planning and Program Development
Office of Pollution Prevention
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Content Last Updated on December 7, 2006

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Hazardous Material in Schools

Pesticide Application

In conformity with applicable statutes, the intent of this policy is to ensure that staff, students, and parents/guardians receive adequate advance notice of pesticide applications in school buildings or on school grounds. Further, effective July 1, 2000, the District will only employ certified pesticide applicators for any non-emergency pesticide use in the school buildings or grounds.

A "pesticide" is defined as a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide, or a rodenticide but does not mean a sanitizer, disinfectant, antimicrobial agent or pesticide barrier.

The Board is committed to minimizing the use of pesticides. Therefore, the primary practice of pest control shall involve reducing/eliminating the conditions necessary for pest survival. These measures include but are not limited to good housekeeping and routine, prompt maintenance of buildings and grounds.

As required by state statute, the District shall:

- Annually inform parents/guardians and staff of the District's pest application/management policy and a description of any pesticide applications made during the previous school year.
- Establish a registry of parents/guardians and staff who want to receive advance notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice.
- Provide notice of planned pesticide application to students, parents/guardians and employees.
- Make pesticide applications only after regular school hours or planned activities.
- Maintain written records for five years of all pesticide applications.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

22a-46. Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.

22a-54. Pesticide applicators, certification, classification, notice, fees, reciprocity; financial responsibility; aircraft, tree, public employee applicators.



Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Guidance on Determination of Threats to Human Health, Allowing Application of Lawn Care Pesticides at Schools

State law (Sec 10-231b of the general statutes) provides for a phase out and eventual ban of lawn care pesticides at public and private schools grades pre-K through 8. There is however a provision in this law that allows for the emergency use of pesticides to eliminate threats to human health. The determination of health threat may be made by: local health directors, superintendents of public schools, the state Department of Public Health (DPH), or the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This guidance has been developed jointly by the DEP and DPH to assist local health departments and superintendents in their determinations when schools or their contractors wish to make a lawn care pesticide application for human health protection.

It is important to remember that health directors and superintendents only need to make this determination to allow the use of lawn care pesticides. Lawn care pesticides are defined in the law as any pesticide that is labeled for use on lawns, gardens or ornamental sites and areas (including trees). Other pesticides may be used to control human health threats without such a formal determination. Notification of either type of application must be made by the normal method, i.e. to those parents/guardians who have registered for notification.

The pests listed below are considered to be the most common ones for which a decision will likely need to be made. You should note that nuisance pests, such as dog ticks, biting flies or mosquitoes in the absence of indications they are carrying disease, are not considered a threat to human health sufficient to justify control with lawn care pesticides. We have also included integrated pest management (IPM) recommendations for each pest, which should reduce the amount of pesticide used and increase the effectiveness of the application, if needed.

Black legged (Deer) Ticks

Ticks must be identified by a qualified person, most frequently a pest control or lawn care professional with a supervisory pesticide application certificate. Only black legged ticks carry the most important infectious agents of diseases of public health concern in Connecticut (Lyme disease, babesiosis, or ehrlichiosis), so lawn care pesticides may be used to control only this type of tick. Dog ticks, while common, are not frequent carriers of these agents, so need not be controlled as a human health threat. The IPM measures recommended for this pest will greatly reduce the need for pesticides. These include habitat modification, such as the trimming of tall grass and brush, removal of leaf litter, restricting the use of ground cover plants, and trimming trees and brush to allow more sunlight to the ground. Playscape equipment should also be in areas away from field edges. If ticks are still present, and lawn care pesticides need to be used, the areas of concern on the school grounds should be evaluated by dragging for ticks to determine where the population occurs (see tick management handbook noted below for

techniques). Only the "hot spots" should be treated. Since ticks prefer edges and tall grass, these hot spots will almost never include lawns or playing fields, except at the very edge. Pesticide treatments should be limited to one or at most two per year, the more important application being in the mid to late spring to control nymphal ticks, and a second mid-autumn application to control adults. The tick population in treated areas should then be monitored by dragging. More detailed methods for tick monitoring and habitat control may be found in the *Tick Management Handbook* by Dr. Kirby Stafford of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) at: http://www.ct.gov/caes/lib/caes/documents/special_features/TickHandbook.pdf

Mosquitoes

Adult mosquitoes may only be controlled with lawn care pesticides if population monitoring has shown that there is an infectious agent of human disease (e.g. West Nile virus or eastern equine encephalitis) being carried in the population, and control is needed to prevent an outbreak of such disease. This determination will most likely be made on an area-wide basis through monitoring by state agencies. Most types of mosquito control will not require the use of lawn care pesticides. For example, larvicides are not lawn care pesticides, nor are most fogging products, and can therefore be used without a health threat determination. Foliar applications of lawn care pesticides are sometimes appropriate to establish a barrier where adult mosquitoes will be killed when they alight on the treated foliage. This type of application should be limited, and made after consultation with mosquito control experts at the DEP or CAES. (Contact information is below)

Stinging Insects

Yellowjackets and wasps are common pests on playgrounds. Their control however will very rarely involve the use of a lawn care pesticide. Most frequently they can be controlled with over-the-counter aerosol pesticides. This use does not require a health department or superintendent determination of a public health threat. Rarely, burrowing wasps will require the use of a lawn care pesticide to control them over a wider area than a single burrow, but even there, physical methods, such as covering the area with mulch, may suffice. Clover in lawns will attract honeybees. The control of clover with herbicides however should not be considered as a public health use. Honeybees are not particularly aggressive, and the clover flowers can be eliminated by simply mowing the lawn.

Poison Ivy

Poison Ivy is not likely to occur in great abundance in lawns. It can however be common along the edges of fields and growing up trees. Before controlling this weed with herbicides, the site should be evaluated to determine if schoolchildren actually frequent the area. The children should also be taught to recognize and avoid the plant. If the infestation needs control with herbicides, it should be done on a spot treatment basis. For example vines growing up trees can be treated with a cut stem technique, where the cut stem of the plant is treated with a herbicide, preventing re-growth and eliminating the need for foliar spray.

Other Pests

Control of other pests may also require the use of lawn care pesticides. Giant Hogweed is one possibility. Although rare, it is an attractive nuisance, with large stems that might be used for swords or spyglasses by creative children. Unfortunately, it also can cause severe skin irritation. With increasing travel and globalization new public health pests could appear at any time. These

will need to be handled on a case-by-case basis, with consultation with the DPH, DEP and CAES.

Pesticide Selection

Lawn care pesticides used to control a threat to human health should be selected on the basis of their overall hazard. Hazard includes: toxicity, efficacy, which in turn affects frequency of use, concentration, and potential for exposure. Clearly, pesticides that have lower hazard should be chosen in preference to those with higher hazard. This determination however is not always clear-cut, since some products with higher inherent toxicity have lower use rates and less frequent applications needed. Most frequently, the school or its applicator will propose a pesticide, which can then be evaluated. The DEP pesticide program can provide additional guidance on this process.

Pesticides should not be applied when children are in the treated area, and preferably when school is not in session. People must not be allowed to re-enter the treated area until the product label allows it.

Coordination

One purpose of this guidance is to provide consistency for determinations of threats to public health that may justify the application of a lawn care pesticide. If a state agency is solicited to make such a determination, it will contact the local health department before notifying the school to assure that decisions are made with all necessary input and to avoid confusion. Local health departments or superintendents should not hesitate to consult with a state agency, or notify such agency of a determination to use a lawn care pesticide. Contact numbers are below.

DEP Pesticide Program 860/424-3369 (complaints, enforcement, pesticide information)

DEP Mosquito Management 860/642-7630 (mosquito control methods)

DPH Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment 860/509-7742 (health effects of pesticides)

DPH Epidemiology and Emerging Infections 860/509-7994 (infectious diseases information)

CAES Mosquito trapping and virus surveillance 860/974-8510

01/08