



# Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands

## Pesticide Use Notification Plan

# 2017

### Document Control

Author:	George Salouros Director, Asset and Facilities Management
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Version	Date	Author(s)	Summary of Changes
1.0	27/04/2016	George Salouros	This Plan amalgamates the Pesticide Use Notification Plans for Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands. DRAFT plan for public exhibition.
2.0	13/07/2016	George Salouros	This is the Final Plan following public consultation.
3.0	5/09/2017	George Salouros	Now refers to Pesticides Regulation 2017

## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	3
Public places covered by this plan .....	3
Notification arrangements .....	5
1. Notice of pesticide use .....	5
2. Instances where the BGCP will not provide notification of pesticide use .....	6
3. How and when notice of pesticide use will be provided .....	6
Special measures for sensitive places .....	6
Notification of emergency pesticide applications .....	7
Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places .....	7
What information will be provided .....	7
How the community will be informed of this plan .....	7
Future reviews of this plan .....	8
Contact details .....	8
Appendix 1 - Glossary of Terms .....	9

## Introduction

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). The plan sets out how the Botanic Gardens and Centennial Parklands will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns or controls.

Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands (BGCP) is the operating name used following the operational integration of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust and the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust is responsible for the management and stewardship of the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, the Domain, the Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan and the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah. The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust is responsible for the long-term strategic planning of the Parklands, as well as the operational day-to-day management of the three parks - Centennial Park, Moore Park and Queens Park.

## Public places covered by this plan

The BGCP proposes to use or allow the use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places that it owns or controls:

- public gardens / parks
- playgrounds / picnic areas
- sporting fields and ovals
- road verges and reserves
- laneways and pathways
- drains
- golf courses
- other sporting facilities (i.e. tennis courts, netball courts, athletics field, equestrian centre)
- other public places (i.e. restaurants and cafés; shops)
- forest / bushland
- amenity buildings.

The BGCP estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide use in each of these categories of public places is summarised in the following table.

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place <i>[High, Medium or Low]</i>	Type of pesticide use
<b>Public gardens / Parks</b>	General public Sports teams Tourists Families and children	High	Spot herbicides Selective herbicides Spot insecticides Fungicides
<b>Picnic areas / Playgrounds</b>	General public Tourists Families and children	High	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Spray ant control



Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands Pesticide Use Notification Plan 2017

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place <i>[High, Medium or Low]</i>	Type of pesticide use
<b>Sporting fields and ovals</b>	General public Organised sporting clubs and associations School sports groups Intermittent organised event related users	High	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broad scale selective herbicide Broad scale insecticides
<b>Road verges and reserves</b>	General public Sports teams Tourists Families and Children Event attendees Contractors and/or Neighbours Staff and Volunteers	High	Spot herbicides
<b>Laneways and pathways</b>	General public (i.e. Walkers, runners, bicyclists, drivers).	High	Spot herbicides
<b>Drains</b>	Contractors Neighbours Staff and Volunteers	Low	Broad scale non-selective herbicides Spot herbicides
<b>Golf course</b>	Golfers General passive recreational users	High	Spot herbicides Spot insecticides Broad scale selective herbicides Broad scale insecticides Fungicides Nematicides
<b>Other sporting facilities (i.e. tennis courts, netball courts, athletics field, Equestrian centre)</b>	School user groups Sporting clubs and associations Horse riders / Horse trainers General patrons	High	Spot herbicides (surrounds) Spot insecticides Bait Rodenticides Spray ant control Bait ant control Bait termiticides Spray termiticides
<b>Other public places (i.e. Restaurants and Cafés; Shops)</b>	Restaurant diners and café visitors	High	Spot herbicides (surrounds) Spot insecticides Bait rodenticides Spray ant control Bait ant control Bait termiticides Spray termiticides
<b>Forest/bushland (not publicly accessible)</b>	Contractors Neighbours Staff and Volunteers	Low	Spot herbicides

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place <i>[High, Medium or Low]</i>	Type of pesticide use
<b>Amenity Buildings</b>	General public Sporting groups and associations	High	Spot herbicides (surrounds) Spot insecticides Bait rodenticides Spray termiticides Bait ant control

## Notification arrangements

This section of the plan describes how and when the BGCP will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including special measures for sensitive places that are adjacent to public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

These notification requirements are based on the Botanic Gardens and Centennial Parklands, assessment of:

- The level of usage within listed areas where pesticides may be used;
- The extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides are visiting these areas. The people most likely to be affected by pesticides include pregnant women, children and the elderly;
- The extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides; and
- The type of pesticide used.

### 1. Notice of pesticide use

Whenever a pesticide is applied by the Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands and its contractors on its lands, we will provide notice by a variety of methods:

- For the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney & the Domain:
  - Prominently displayed temporary signs will be installed at the location to be treated with pesticides.
  - Government House Sydney (which is located inside the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney) will be notified by email for each spray application in the vicinity of these grounds and gardens.
- For the Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan:
  - In public accessible areas - prominently displayed temporary signs will be installed at the location to be treated with pesticides.
  - In non-public accessible areas - informational signage will be erected at the nearest access point to the area being treated (including broadacre spraying).
- For the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, prominently displayed temporary signs will be installed at the entry to the Visitors Centre as this is the main public access point at the Garden.
- For the Centennial Parklands, prominently displayed temporary signs will be installed at the location to be treated with pesticides.



At all sites, we will exclude visitors from the spray area if there is a withholding period, as per label requirements. This is in the form of a sign, and where practicable: delineation via fencing, roping off area and/or placement of witches hats to advise/deny access to the site whilst the application is in progress and during any exclusion/re-entry period for pesticide use.

All pesticide use carried out for or on behalf of BGCP must be undertaken by a person qualified to use the pesticide in accordance with Clause 32 of the Pesticide Regulation.

## 2. Instances where the BGCP will not provide notification of pesticide use

The BGCP uses small quantities of some pesticides that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home gardening).

The BGCP does not intend to provide notice for such pesticide applications other than by way of description in this plan or general information provided on the website. This will apply to minor control of indoor and outdoor insect pests using baits or aerosol spray cans and spot weed control using a wick wipe wand or hand bottle.

The BGCP will not give notification for the use of herbicides applied through stem injection, and cut and paste techniques.

The application of these pesticides through the methods listed above, form part of regular and routine maintenance activity within the places covered within this Plan.

Pesticides applied through the methods above pose very low health or safety risk to persons when applied as per the manufacturer's instructions.

## 3. How and when notice of pesticide use will be provided

In the areas listed above (See Section 2), prominently displayed temporary signs will be placed at the location prior to the pesticide application commencing and the signs will be removed following the completion of pesticide application following the label instruction, for the pesticides classifications below:

- Broad scale non-selective herbicide
- Broad scale insecticide
- Fungicides
- Spray termiticides and ant control
- Spot use of insecticides
- Bait rodenticides
- Spray termiticides
- Spray ant control

## Special measures for sensitive places

Clause 39 of the Regulation defines a sensitive place to be any:

- a) a school, pre-school, kindergarten or childcare centre,
- b) a hospital, community health centre or nursing home,
- c) any place declared to be a sensitive place by the Environment Protection Authority by order published in the Gazette.

Within the BGCP the Centennial Parklands Child Care Centre is the sole sensitive place.

Special notification measures for programmed pesticide use in this area will consist of

- Displaying temporary signs prior to treatment and the signs will remain for the remainder of the business day after treatment or until the product is dry.
- Telephone notification 48 hours prior to any nearby pesticide application.

## Notification of emergency pesticide applications

In cases where emergency pesticide applications in public places are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard), the BGCP will, where reasonably possible place signage in the surrounding area providing the public with at least a 10 metre buffer zone between the sign and the treatment area. If this is not possible, the person applying the pesticide will verbally advise the public at the time of application.

## Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places

Where BGCP uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf: we will ensure that all contractors are inducted as per the notification requirements listed within this plan.

Commercial service providers working on behalf of BGCP will be required to hold appropriate licences to carry out the work.

Where certain sites are under lease arrangement, the lessee will be required to notify the public of pesticide usage as per the requirements listed within this Plan. Where possible, BGCP will require lessees, as a condition of their lease, to comply with this plan.

## What information will be provided

In accordance with clause 41(1)(h) of the Regulation, notice of pesticides uses will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used and
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated and
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use and
- the places where the pesticide is to be used and
- contact telephone number and email address of the staff member or contractor who people can contact to discuss the notice and
- any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA<sup>1</sup> permit.

## How the community will be informed of this plan

The Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands will advise residents of this plan and its contents by:

- making a copy of the plan available for viewing, free of charge, at its office locations at:
  - The Royal Botanic Garden Sydney
    - Mrs Macquaries Road, Sydney NSW 2000

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<sup>1</sup> The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), the national government body responsible for assessing and registering (or otherwise approving) all pesticide products in Australia and for their regulation up to and including the point of retail sale.



- The Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan
    - Narellan Road, Mount Annan, NSW 2567
  - The Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah
    - Bells Line of Road, Mount Tomah, NSW 2758
  - Centennial Parklands
    - Banksia Way, Centennial Park, NSW 2021
- placing a copy of the plan on the Botanic Gardens Website and Centennial Parklands Website
  - placing a notice in the local newspapers: *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Southern Courier*, *The Wentworth Courier*, *Macarthur Chronicle*, and *Blue Mountains Gazette*.

## Future reviews of this plan

The notification plan will be reviewed every five (5) years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- reasons for review of the plan
- public consultation on the notification methods outlined in the plan (i.e. exhibiting revised plan for comment)
- recommendation for alterations (if applicable) to the plan.

## Contact details

Anyone wishing to contact the BGCP to discuss the notification plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

*Director of Horticultural Management  
Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands  
Mrs Macquaries Road, Sydney NSW 2000  
email: [feedback@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au](mailto:feedback@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au)*

or access the following Websites:

Botanic Gardens <https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/>

Centennial Parklands <http://www.centennialparklands.com.au/>



**Kim Ellis**

*Executive Director*

Date:

*25 October 2017.*



## Appendix 1 - Glossary of Terms

### **Pesticides Terminology**

**Pesticides** – is the general term given to the group of substances that are used for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest, or disease.

**Herbicide** – These destroy, suppress or prevent the spread of a weed or other unwanted vegetation. For example, in the Botanic Gardens & Parklands Herbicides are used to control weed growth within garden beds.

**Fungicide** – These control, destroy, render ineffective or regulate the effect of a fungus; for example, fungicides are used in the parklands for the treatment of typical turf grass diseases such as dollar spot which is caused by humid weather conditions.

**Insecticide** – These destroy, suppress, stupefy, inhibit the feeding of, or prevent infestations or attacks by an insect. For example, Insecticides are used in the Botanic Gardens & Parklands to control a wide variety of insect pests including thrips and aphids within formal garden displays, as well as boring insects that can caused major damage to our trees.

**Nematicide** – destroy or protect against pests that feed on or inhibit on plant root systems. Nematicides are mainly used at the Moore Park Golf Course to protect turf surfaces.

**Non-selective Herbicide** – Non-selective Herbicides do not target particular plant groups, and will generally have an adverse effect on any vegetation that it comes into contact with. The most common non selective herbicide used in the Botanic Gardens & Parklands is Glyphosate, which is used to treat weeds in garden beds and pathways.

### **Pesticide Application Methods**

- **Spot application** – Spot applications refer to pesticides administered using hand operated spray packs and wand applicators.
- **Broad scale Application** – Broad-scale pesticide applications refer to pesticides administered with a vehicle mounted boom spray.
- **Baited Application** – Baited pesticides are used in controlled environments to target pest species including rabbits, termites, rodents and insects.

**Rodenticide** – These are pesticides used specifically for controlling rodent species such as mice and rats.

**Selective Herbicide** – Selective herbicides are formulated to target particular plant types. Selective herbicides are used throughout the Botanic Gardens & Parklands turf areas, sports fields, and Golf Course to treat common weeds such as bindii and clover within grass areas.

**Termiticide** – pesticides used for the treatment and prevention of termite damage.

