

Comparing
Herbicide Use VS Hydro Mechanical Obliterationsm (H_M_O or HMO)
Research done by Veronica Valero for NUSD IPM Committee updated 7-11-2011

When Comparing Cost Factors between HMO and Herbicide use the following needs to be considered:

COST FACTORS—Current Method of Weed Control:

The hidden costs of using herbicides:

1. Adapt Policies & Procedures
2. Meet Required Mandates: Clean Water Act and others...
3. Train Staff/Get Certification
4. Purchase Herbicides
5. Store Herbicides
6. Notification Process
7. Application time restrictions (weather, people/children present, etc.)
8. Apply Substances, A 4-step process:
 - Spray & Kill: a labor cost
 - Mow Down: a labor cost
 - Collect: a labor cost
 - Dispose: a labor cost, disposal cost
9. Monitor, measure, document herbicide use
10. Unknown long-term health risk/cost of exposure to people (children), animals & the environment.

COST FACTORS—A Paradigm shift using HMO:

1. **Draft/ADD a NEW IPM Model Ordinance** to include HMO
2. **Meet Required Mandates:** Clean Water Act and others...
3. **Train Staff/Get Certification** for HMO
4. **ELIMINATES NEED TO:** Purchase Herbicides
5. **ELIMINATES NEED TO:** Store Herbicides
6. **ELIMINATES:** Notification Process
7. **ELIMINATES:** Application time restrictions (weather, people/children present, etc.)
8. **4-STEP PROCESS REPLACED BY 1-STEP:** Apply Substances, A 4-step process:
 - **REPLACES "Spray & Kill" WITH "Obliterate Weeds and Cultivate Soil"**
 - **ELIMINATES:** Mow Down: a labor cost
 - **ELIMINATES:** Collect: a labor cost
 - **ELIMINATES:** Dispose: a labor cost, disposal cost
9. **ELIMINATES NEED TO:** Monitor, measure, document herbicide use (Though we do want to measure and monitor success rates of alternative weed abatement programs.)
10. **ELIMINATES:** long-term health risk/cost of exposure to people (children), animals & the environment.

H_M_O CONTACT INFO

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Hydro_Mechanical_Obliterationsm (H_M_O or HMO)

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For updated info on my research on HMO go to www.ComputerTutorMarin.com and click on the "Community Announcement" link on the right side. This is my business website—I created an IPM webpage to help share the important information with the community. –**Veronica Valero** (415) 897-2302