

Turf and Ornamental
Pest Control Management Plan

University of Connecticut
Storrs Campus, Storrs, CT
Depot Campus, Mansfield Depot, CT

November, 2010

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1.0 OBJECTIVES (RCSA SEC. 22A-66L-1(C)(2))

The pest control management plan has been developed for the management and control of vegetative and insect pests associated with the grounds at the University of Connecticut (UConn) campuses located in Storrs, CT (Main Campus) and Mansfield Depot, CT (Depot Campus). This plan has been developed in accordance with RCSA Sec. 22a-66l-1 (Appendix A).

The University of Connecticut’s overall turf and oriental management strategy is to aggressively establish and sustain healthy turfs and gardens, thereby preventing or diminishing the opportunities for undesired weeds and pests to take hold. Fewer occurrences of undesired weeds and pests means lessened response, including lessened pesticide use.

The goal of this pest control management plan is to describe University practices to prevent pest occurrence as well as to promote Integrated Pest Management methods in response to the pest occurrences that do arise. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a means to deliver effective pest control while at the same time reducing the volume and toxicity of pesticides used and human and environmental exposure to pesticides.

However, pesticides may be used as a tool to maintain pest populations at or below an acceptable level while maintaining plant health and aesthetic quality. If possible, pesticides will not be applied on a routine basis. Pesticides shall be used when warranted according to a predetermined hierarchy of pest management choices, formulations, and application techniques. The selection of pesticides that may be used will be based on a pre-determined hierarchy that will utilize least toxic products as first choice.

Note, the term “pest” is used within this Plan to refer to undesired vegetation (weeds), insects, and fungus. The term “pesticide” is used within this plan to refer to herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. Plan Development

This plan has been developed by the UConn Office of Environmental Policy (OEP).

Jason Coite, Environmental Compliance Analyst
Office of Environmental Policy
31 LeDoyt Road
Storrs, CT 06269-3055
Phone: (860)486-9305

This Plan was developed in conjunction with the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) identified in the following subsection. **The plan developer and the COR are both familiar with the objectives and contents of this plan (22a-66l-1(c)(3)).**

An appraisal of this IPM program will be conducted annually by OEP and the COR. A determination will be made as to the effectiveness of the program and revisions will be made to correct potential problems.

2.2. Contracting Officer's Representatives

UConn Facilities Operations manages pest control of the general university grounds.

Dave Lotreck, Facilities Operations, Manager
Building Services, Landscaping & Elevators
25 LeDoyt Road, U-3252
Storrs, CT 06269-3252
Phone: (860) 486-3591
Fax: (860) 486-1486
Email: dave.lotreck@uconn.edu

The UConn Facilities Manager must approve this Pest Control Management Plan as a designated representative of the President of the University of Connecticut (see Section 7.0).

With respect to pest management, duties of the Facilities Manager or his delegate include:

- Reviewing and revising, if needed, this Plan by January 1 of each year (see Section 7.0).
- Providing the contracted landscaping/pest control companies the UConn Pest Control Management Plan.
- Informing any contracted landscaping/pest control companies of any campus areas that are known to be problematic or sensitive to pesticide use.
- Reviewing Contractor’s submittals (see Section 2.4) for consistency with the University Pest Control Management Plan.
- Conducting initial inspections of each site inspected for the purpose of identifying areas of pest infestation (weed, insect and disease) and conditions that are expected to promote pest infestation.

The Facilities Manager should also interact with all facility staff members to ensure that pest sightings and other pest control related items are promptly brought to the attention of the contracted landscaping/pest control companies.

2.3. Landscape/Pest Control Contractors (22a-661-1(c)(6)(D))

UConn Facilities Operations contracts pest management services to the landscaping/pest control companies. Below is the list of those landscaping/pest control companies currently under contract for maintenance of the campus grounds.

Contractor	TruGreen LawnCare	Brickman
CT License	B-0151	B-1438
Address	89 Old Forge Road Rocky Hill, CT 06067	16 Roselle Street Milford, CT 06461
Phone	860-563-5200	203-878-7389
Fax	860-563-0417	203-878-7769
Licensed Supervisor (License #)	Paul Mulberg (S-1264)	Justin Rice (S-5372),
Licensed Operators (License #)	Ron Orde (O-11074) Jason Johns (O-20601)	Mathew Tansley (O-26710)

Duties of the /pest control companies include:

- Reviewing and certifying that they have read and will comply with this UConn Pest Control Management Plan.
- Conducting thorough inspections as a follow-up to problem areas identified during the Facilities Manager's initial inspection to identify any equipment, structural features, or management practices that are contributing to pest infestations.
- Performing service calls as needed depending upon pest pressure and should involve a visual inspection of potential problem areas, with the assistance of monitoring devices where appropriate and application of pesticides where pest populations exceed threshold levels.
- Preparing and submitting to UConn Facilities Manager appropriate documentation describing their pest control methods, intended pesticide use, and appropriate licenses (see Section 2.4).
- Record keeping and reporting (See Section 2.5).

2.4. Contractor's Submittals

Prior to initiation of service, the Contractor shall provide a documentation describing the service schedule and the contractor's pest control methods, including integrated pest control and pesticide use.

Upon receipt of this documentation, the Facilities Manager will render a decision regarding its acceptability. If aspects of the contractor's submittals are incomplete or disapproved, the Contractor shall submit revisions.

The submittals shall consist of the following, at a minimum:

- (1) A service schedule;
- (2) Proposed methods for control, including integrated pest management and labels and Material Safety Data sheets (MSDS sheets) for all pesticides and herbicides to be used.
- (3) A copy of the Commercial Pesticide Applicator Certificate for every Contractor's representative who will be performing on-site service under contract.

It shall be the Contractor's responsibility to carry out work according to the UConn Pest Control Management Plan. The Contractor may recommend revisions to the UConn Pest Control Management Plan, including additions or replacements to the pesticide list and to on-site service personnel. Any revisions to the Pest Control Management Plan shall be approved by the UConn Facilities Manager in accordance with Section 7.0.

Documentation provided by the contracted landscape/pest control companies is included in Appendix B.

2.5. Record Keeping & Reporting

Records will be completed at the conclusion of each service call and will include written recommendations of corrective measures that need to be made by building maintenance personnel.

The Contractor shall be responsible for maintaining a pest control logbook or file for each building or site specified in this contract. These records shall be kept at UConn and maintained on each visit by the Contractor. Each logbook or file shall contain at least the following items:

All pest problem areas and written recommendations will be recorded on "***Ornamental & Turf Pesticide Application Record /Monitoring Report***" forms or substantially similar substitute (Appendix C). These forms will be kept in a file that will be maintained in UConn Facilities Manager's office. Additional records that will be maintained in this file will include a copy of this plan, copies of all soil sample analysis reports, a diagram indicating the placement of all pest monitoring devices and copies of the pesticide product label information provided at the time of contract by the contracted landscaping/pest control companies.

3.0 TURF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (22a-66l-1(c)(4),(5))

A lawn area that is properly managed should produce dense, thick turf-grass, which ideally will help to prevent invasive weed species from getting established. Some weed growth should be anticipated, and tolerated to some degree.

The integrated pest management options to be implemented by UConn are described below (22a-66l-1(c)(4)).

3.1. Inspections & Monitoring

Campus grounds shall be inspected for the purpose of identifying areas of pest infestation (weed, insect and disease) and conditions that could lead to turf destabilization (e.g., compaction, runoff scour). Once these areas have been identified, the Contractor and the Facilities Manager will discuss various pest control options and determine the speed of control necessary as well as threshold/action levels based on pest population, species, plant health and aesthetic considerations.

The licensed supervisors for Contractor will submit recommendations for corrective measures specifying action that should be taken by the facility (e.g.; correct drainage/runoff problems, aerate, reseed, etc.) prior to the application of any pesticides. A written report documenting which of the recommendations will not be followed with the stated reason(s) if no action is to be taken as required by CSR Sec.22a-66l-1(c). Otherwise, all IPM methods that are recommended will be followed.

3.2. Mowing

UConn Facilities and/or the Contractor are responsible for mowing of campus grounds. Turf will be mowed to a **3"- 3½"** height or as high as possible on a *weekly/bi-weekly* basis. Mowing should be done when the grass is dry to avoid spread of turf diseases. Mower blades should be maintained with sharp cutting edges to avoid excessive wounding and stress of the turf-grass.

3.3. Grass Clippings

Grass clippings will remain on the lawn and allowed to degrade, returning 50% of available nitrogen back to the lawn. This will help to increase the soil organic matter and promote beneficial earthworm activity.

3.4. Soil Analyses

UConn Facilities shall collect soil samples for to assess soil fertility and pH by laboratory analysis. Annual sampling will be performed in late fall or early spring after the frost has left the ground. Proper soil pH and fertility will help to prevent many turf-grass diseases and promote plant vigor, thereby reducing the occurrence of insect and weed invasion. Maintaining a soil pH between 6.0 and 7.0 makes nutrients most available to the grass plants.

3.5. Amendments

Amendments will be made to the soil as recommended by the analysis reports. Depending on the results of the analysis and the recommendations of the landscape/pest control contractor, Facilities or the L/PC Co. will amend the soil with sand or organic matter.

3.6. Aeration

Gross compaction does not allow the preferred turf grass to proliferate and allows undesirable weeds to take over. Aeration is the process of poking holes in the soil surface of the turf. Aeration relieves compaction, loosens soil, allows more water, in soil, helps break down thatch, allows compost to penetrate soil, and allows for better root health and growth. UConn Facilities operates an aerator tractor-attachment, heavy in weight, with solid tines (spikes), pokes the ground 2"-3" deep.

3.7. Seeding

Reverse rototilling cultivates soil while sifting fine particles for the seedbed, and burying the coarse aggregate and debris. Over seeding the area in late summer/early fall with improved turf-grass and raising the mower height during the growing season will help to prevent crabgrass encroachment.

3.8. Fertilization

While nutrients derived from fertilizers, both chemical and organic, can be detrimental to the surface water quality, limited fertilizer use will help promote healthy turf and. Reduced weeds allows for reduced herbicide use, and reduced herbicide use reduces the amount potential contamination in runoff and surface water.

When practicable, organic fertilizers may be used, otherwise, fertilizer with up to 50% slow release nitrogen shall be utilized. Fertilizer should be applied no later than October 15. Fertilizer applications should be performed when grasses are actively growing, usually late May/early June and late August/early September. Fertilizer applications will not

exceed 2-2 1/2 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet per year unless soil sample analysis reports indicate a necessity to further amend the soil. Specifically, 25-0-8 fertilizer (Lesco Professional Turf Fertilizer) shall be applied at a rate of 50 lbs. per 12,500 square feet, per the manufacturers directions. This equates to 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

3.9. Irrigation

Only select areas of turf on the UConn grounds are irrigated. Ornamentals are also watered. Watering may be done once a week to a depth of 1" between the hours of **5:00 am and 8:00 am**. The second best time to water is late evening/early morning after the dew has fallen. Watering in the evening is not recommended on hot, humid nights because it may increase the occurrence of diseases. **Necrotic ring spot and summer patch** may be prevented by keeping the upper soil layers moist.

3.10. Thatch Management

A thatch layer up to 1/2-3/4 inches thick is beneficial. An excessive layer is undesirable because it will block moisture, fertilizers and/or pesticides from reaching the root zone of the turf. Over-development of thatch can be prevented by reducing fertilizer applications and maintaining proper soil pH. If de-thatching is necessary, it will be done mechanically during the spring or late summer (September) when grasses are actively growing and can recover faster.

3.11. Hand Weeding

Where practical, hand weeding will be performed. When hand weeding is impractical herbicides can be used as described in Section 4.1.

3.12. Other

This is not a comprehensive list of integrated pest management strategies. The University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service, as well as UConn faculty and agricultural staff with turf management expertise, shall be consulted regularly for innovative pest management options. No integrated pest management options are universally rejected by this plan (22a-66l-1(c)(5)).

4.0 TURF PESTICIDE PLAN (22a-66l-1(6)(A)-(C))

No outdoor pesticides shall be used during or prior to any imminent precipitation that would result in runoff. The pesticide applicator must check local weather reports and can apply the approved herbicide only if there is no precipitation predicted for the next 48 hours or for the amount of time specified on the pesticide manufacturer’s label, or whichever is longer.

4.1. Herbicide Use

Preventive herbicide applications may only be performed when the previous year’s monitoring has indicated a likelihood of weed infestation that cannot be deterred by properly cultivating turf grass. Preventive applications should be made only to specific problem areas.

Widespread applications of broadleaf herbicides will not be performed unless weed species have invaded greater than **25%** of the entire turf area. Spot applications will be performed to small areas on an as needed basis. A complete re-evaluation of any area requiring a broad application of pesticide will be performed by *the Contractor’s certified supervisor* to assess and re-implement proper cultural practices to maintain turf density and vigor.

Whenever practicable, biological pest control such as predatory insects, beneficial nematodes or microbial pesticides will be utilized. Applications of insecticide to turf areas will be limited in an effort to preserve populations of beneficial insects and nematodes. Pesticides selected for possible use are as follows.

Turf Grass Weed Control			
Weed	Herbicide Use	Herbicide (active ingredient)	Contractor
Crabgrass	Pre-emergent	Barricade (Prodiamine 65%)	TruGreen
	Spot Application only	Drive 75 (Quinchlorac 75%)	TruGreen
	Spot Application or Wide Spread w/ approval of Fac. Mngr.	Prosecutor Pro (Glyphosate, isopropylamine salt 41 %)	Brickman
Broadleaf	Spot Application	Tripower (Dicamba, dimethylamine salt 3.97%, MCPA, dimethylamine salt 40.4%, MCPP-P, dimethylamine salt 7.99%) Trupower (2,4-D triisopropanolamine salt 47.77%, MCCP dimethylamine salt 7.74%, Dicamba acid 3.20%)	TruGreen
	Wide Spread w/ approval of Fac. Mngr.		
Invasive Annual Grasses	Spot Application	Acclaim (Fenoxaprop-P (+) 6.59 %) or Dimension (Dithiopyr)	TruGreen
	Wide Spread w/ approval of Fac. Mngr.		

The amount of pesticide to be used shall be consistent with the manufacturer’s recommendation on the pesticide label.

Priority is given to those herbicides having the lowest toxicity, taking into consideration the method and frequency of application and the risk of exposure

Turf Herbicides Toxicity and Risk of Exposure		
Lowest toxicity	Moderate toxicity	Moderate to high toxicity
a) Prosecutor Pro b) Dimension	a) Acclaim b) Barriacde c) Drive 75	a) TriPower b) TruPower

Use of any moderate to high toxicity pesticide product requires written approval of the UConn Facilities Manager prior to application.

4.2. Insecticide Use

Visual inspection of the turf areas will be done monthly, April through September, by the certified supervisor to monitor for evidence of chinch bug, sod webworm, billbug and/or other destructive turf pests. Additional sampling may be performed to confirm the presence of these pests and/or White Grubs.

Pesticides may be applied if pest populations exceed an acceptable level. Pesticide application will be considered if monitoring indicates the following pest populations or up to 20% damage can be anticipated.

Whenever practicable, biological pest control such as predatory insects, beneficial nematodes or microbial pesticides will be utilized. Applications of insecticide to turf areas will be limited in an effort to preserve populations of beneficial insects and nematodes.

Pesticides selected for possible use are as follows.

Turf Grass Insect Control		
Insect	Minimum Pest Population Before Pesticide Application Will Be Considered	Pesticide (active ingredient)
White Grubs, Japanese beetle, European chafer, Masked chafer, Oriental beetle and/or Asiatic garden beetle	10 Larvae/square foot	Dylox ¹ (Trichlofon)
Chinch Bug	30 - 50 Nymphs & adults/square foot or when damage is evident	Talstar (Bifenthrin)
Sod Webworms/Cutworms	Areas will be treated only when damage is evident.	Talstar (bifenthrin)

The amount of pesticide to be used shall be consistent with the manufacturer’s recommendation on the pesticide label. Priority is given to those pesticides having the lowest toxicity, taking into consideration the method and frequency of application and the risk of exposure.

Turf Pesticides Toxicity and Risk of Exposure		
Lowest toxicity	Moderate toxicity	Moderate to high toxicity
	Dylox Talstar	

No products that have **moderate to high toxicity** and/or risk of exposure based on the formulation, method and frequency of application) are approved for use as a turf pesticide.

4.3. Disease Management

Pesticide applications for control of turf diseases will be performed only if evidence of disease has been found and significant areas (**10-15% of the total turf area**) of permanent damage can be anticipated and all proper cultural practices have been employed. Before pesticides or herbicides are used to treat significantly impacted area, UConn will first attempt to re-establish the turf by mechanically stripping vegetation and topsoil, replacing topsoil if needed, and reseeding.

¹ apply during late August/early September when larvae are present

5.0 ORNAMENTAL PLAN

Foundation plantings and vines will be trimmed at least 12" away from the building to eliminate rodent harborage and access to the building and allow for monitoring of rodent activity. The landscape/pest control technician will remove and dispose of dead and dying vegetation from plants and plant beds (*monthly*) to prevent spread of disease. Leaves will also be raked away to prevent accumulation and development of rodent harborage. Branches and plant material will be properly disposed of at the end of each day that work has been performed.

No outdoor pesticides shall be used during or prior to any imminent precipitation that would result in runoff. The pesticide applicator must check local weather reports and can apply the approved herbicide only if there is no precipitation predicted for the next 48 hours or for the amount of time specified on the pesticide manufacturer's label, or whichever is longer.

5.1. Ornamental Insect Control

5.1.1. *Integrated Pest Management (22a-66l-1(c)(4),(5))*

Insect resistant plant varieties will be selected for planting in any flowerbeds and/or formal landscaping areas whenever possible. Facilities staff and/or the landscape/pest control technician will visually inspect plants for insect infestation prior to planting. Plants found to have any infestation will be rejected in an effort to eliminate damage on a large scale.

Visual inspections will be conducted during routine maintenance activities and pest monitoring traps will be utilized, where appropriate, to indicate the presence of harmful pests. Wherever pest activity is found and if practicable, infested plant(s) or branches will be washed off using a strong stream of water or removed and properly disposed of. No integrated pest management options are universally rejected by this plan.

5.1.2. *Insecticide Use (22a-66l-1(6)(c)(A)-(C))*

In an effort to preserve beneficial and predatory insects, pesticides will be applied only on an as needed basis. Application of pesticide may be considered if it is anticipated that pest activity will result in unacceptable levels of damage to ornamental plants. For this facility, up to **15%** damage or defoliation to ornamental plants will be considered acceptable.

Pesticide application will be limited to only the infested area(s). General applications of pesticides will not be done. Bio-insecticides, insecticidal

soaps, Superior Oil will be utilized if possible. The timing of each application will be based first on whether the pest is present and causing damage, the pest life cycle and at what stage the pest is most vulnerable to pesticides.

Priority is given to those herbicides having the lowest toxicity, taking into consideration the method and frequency of application and the risk of exposure to building occupants.

Ornamental Pesticides Toxicity and Risk of Exposure		
Lowest toxicity	Moderate toxicity	Moderate to high toxicity
Superior Oil (mineral oil)	a) Orthene (acephate) b) Sevin SL(Carbaryl 43%) c) Floramite (Bifenazate)	n/a

Preventive pesticide applications may be performed only to areas where the previous year's monitoring has shown evidence of insect pests which may over-winter on ornamental plants.

5.2. Ornamental Weed and Fungus Control

5.2.1. Integrated Pest Management (22a-66l-1(c)(4),(5))

Mulch will be placed in all garden areas and around individual trees and shrubs. Mulch materials will be placed at sufficient depth to reduce weed growth and help to retain moisture.

Where practicable, hand weeding will be performed in flower gardens and areas of ornamental plantings on a limited basis due to labor expenses.

Curbs, borders and walkways will be edged using a string trimmer or mechanical edger.

5.2.2. Herbicide and Fungicide Use (22a-66l-1(6)(c)(A)-(C))

Herbicides may be applied if weed infestation exceed an acceptable level. Whenever practicable, biological pest control such as predatory insects, beneficial nematodes or microbial pesticides will be utilized.

Preventive herbicide applications may only be performed when the previous year's monitoring has indicated a likelihood of weed infestation that cannot be deterred by. Preventive applications should be made only to specific problem areas, such as road-side curbs.

Herbicides selected for possible use are as follows.

Ornamental Weed and Fungus Control			
Condition	Use	Herbicide	Contractor
Weed Control	Pre-emergent where pesticide labeling allows	Surflan (oryzalin)	TruGreen
		Snapshot (trifluralin 2.0%; Isoxaben 0.5%)	TruGreen and Brickman
		Sahara (prometon)	Brickman
	Spot Application	Razor Pro (glyphosate)	TruGreen
Fungus Control		Clearys (Thiophanate-methyl) Heritage (Azoxystrobin) Eagle (Myclobutanil)	TruGreen

Priority is given to those herbicides having the lowest toxicity, taking into consideration the method and frequency of application and the risk of exposure to building occupants.

Ornamental Herbicides and Fungicides Toxicity and Risk of Exposure			
Lowest toxicity	Moderate toxicity		Moderate to high toxicity
	<u>Herbicides</u> a) Sahara b) Surflan c) Snapshot d) Razor Pro	<u>Fungicides</u> a) Clearys b) Heritage c) Eagle	

5.3. Disease Management

Disease resistant plant varieties will be selected for planting in any flowerbeds and/or formal landscaping areas whenever possible. Facilities staff and/or the landscape/pest control technician will visually inspect plants disease infestation prior to planting. Plants found to have any infestation will be rejected in an effort to eliminate damage on a large scale.

Pesticide applications for control of ornamental diseases will be performed if evidence of disease has been found and significant areas (**15% or greater**) of permanent damage can be anticipated and all proper cultural practices have been employed.

The Contractor's Certified Supervisor will discuss disease control options with *the UConn Facilities Manager* to determine the appropriate course of action.

6.0 SENSATIVE RECEPTORS (22a-66I-1(C)(6)(F))

Maps of the Storrs and Depot campuses depicted the locations of any public water supply, watershed or wellfield are attached to this Plan. These maps were generated using GIS layers (aquifer protection areas, groundwater classifications, public water supply watersheds) available from DEP displayed over aerial photographs of the campuses.

No public water supply, watershed or wellfield are located on the Depot campus. The westerly extent of the aquifer protection area for the UConn Willimantic River wellfield is located approximately ½ mile to the northeast of the campus.

Much of the eastern half of the UConn Storrs campus is located within the public water supply watershed for the Willimantic Reservoir, operated by the Windham Waterworks. Special consideration must be given to the types and amounts of pesticides applied in this area. Runoff carrying pesticides is expected to reach waterways, including Mirror Lake and Roberts Brook, that contribute to the public water supply. Also note that while Swan Lake ordinarily does not discharge to the public water supply, significant storm events will cause Swan Lake to discharge to the public water supply water shed. As such, special care must also be given to pesticides applications in the Swan Lake watershed (including CLAS building, Storrs Hall).

A portion of the aquifer protection area for the UConn Fenton River wellfield extends onto the eastern portion of campus. Special consideration must be given to the likelihood on contaminating groundwater as a result of pesticide use in the aquifer protection area.

A community water supply is located to the west of the Storrs campus. The mapped area of influence for these supply wells extends slightly onto the campus in the areas of Hilltop Apartments (northern portion), Stadium Road, and Putnam Dining Hall. Special consideration must be given to the likelihood on contaminating groundwater as a result of pesticide use in the aquifer protection area.

Potential impacts to aquatic organisms must also be considered during the planned applications of pesticides. No herbicides shall be used during or prior to any imminent precipitation that would result in runoff. The pesticide applicator must check local weather reports and can apply the approved herbicide only if there is no precipitation predicted for at least the next 48 hours.

7.0 PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL

The UConn Facilities Manager, as the designated representative of the head of the state institution, must review and approve this plan (22a-66l-1(d)).

NAME David Lotreck TITLE Facilities Manager

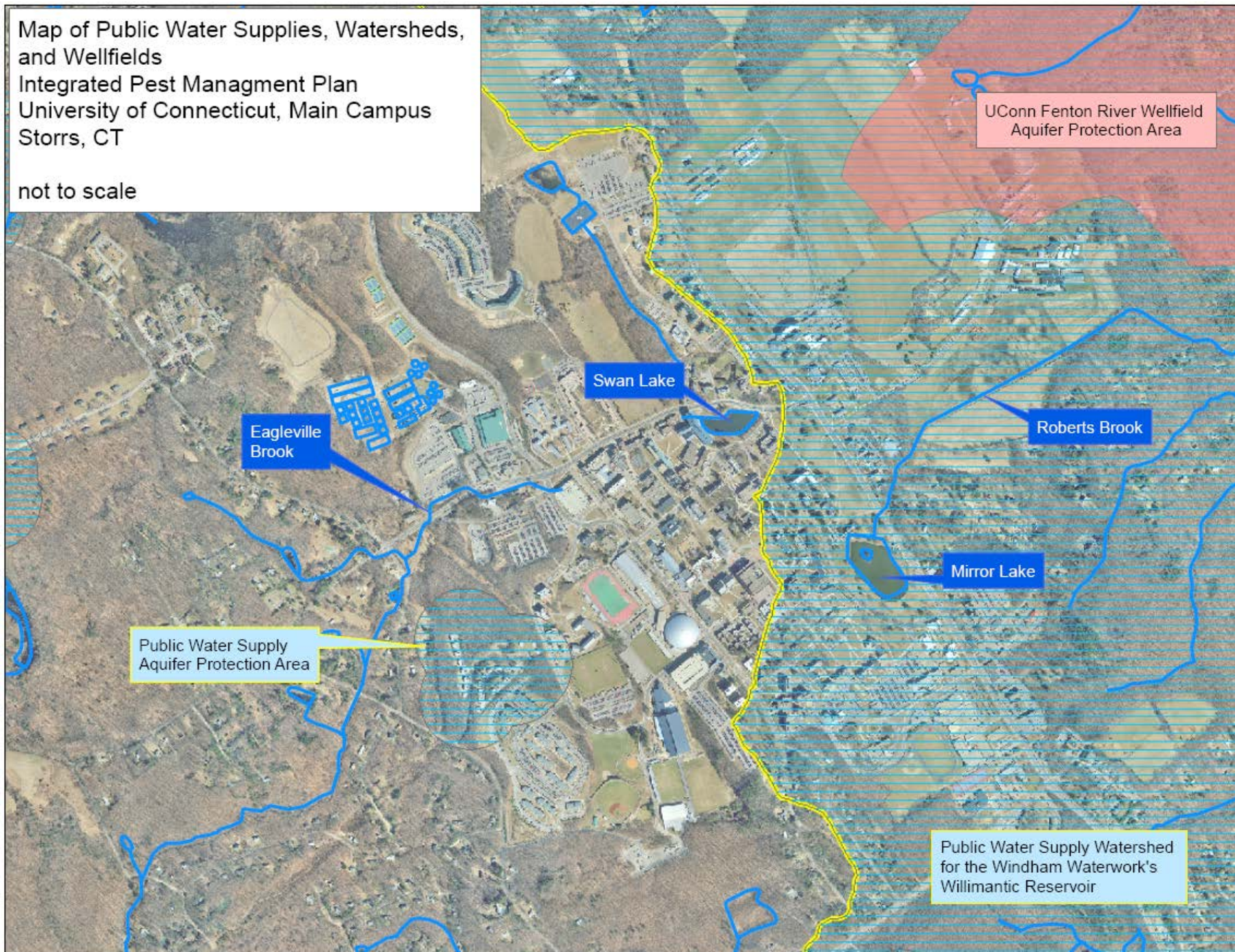
SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

This plan must be revised by January 1 of each year to reflect any changes in the pest control activities or intentions (22a-66l-1(b)).

This plan must be retained by the institution and made available for inspection upon request of the representative of the Department of Environmental Protection (22a-66l-1(d)).

Map of Public Water Supplies, Watersheds,
and Wellfields
Integrated Pest Management Plan
University of Connecticut, Main Campus
Storrs, CT

not to scale





APPENDIX A

RCSA 22a-66I-1 Application of Pesticides by State Agencies

APPENDIX B

Pest Control Information Provided by Landscape/Pest Control Contractors

APPENDIX C

Ornamental & Turf Pesticide Application Record /Monitoring Report Form