

Grounds Maintenance

General school grounds

1. Describe cultural turf management concepts, including
 - a. aeration
 - b. irrigation
 - c. overseeding
 - d. mowing
 - e. fertilization
 - f. soil analysis
2. Describe the qualities of types of turf specific to the region.
3. Describe the principles behind sustainable landscapes (i.e., planned plant placement, landscape maintenance plan for a sustainable, functional landscape).
4. Correct pruning.
5. Identify plant species suited for a site's environmental qualities (i.e., plants that are not vulnerable to regional pests and considering long-term maintenance when choosing plants/trees).
6. Explain the importance for landscaping practices specific to pest exclusion for
 - a. trimming vegetation away from buildings
 - b. keeping mulch 12' from building foundation
 - c. avoiding plants that shed seeds and fruit
7. Identify common weed species and how to manage them using an IPM approach.
8. Identify sensitive sites and describe limitations on pesticide selection.
9. Give examples of when pesticide use is appropriate, and to select reduced-risk pesticide products and application methods.
10. Describe key elements of data collection, recording and evaluation for
 - a. pesticide application
 - b. monitoring
 - c. inspection
11. Explain the importance of complete and accurate pesticide application recording.

Athletic fields

1. Identify turfgrass diseases and management options.
2. Describe methods to lessen or avoid stress on turfgrass for
 - a. athletes playing on wet turf

- b. improper mowing practices
- c. drought
- d. improper irrigation practices

Ticks

1. Ticks in turf and landscape basics
2. Describe methods to manage ticks in landscapes