

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair
sec@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/551/Sustainable-Environment-Commission>

Tuesday
April 15, 2025

6:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
1st Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

PRESENT: Victoria Seever, Steve McGeehan, Tina Hilding, Al Poplaski, Asaph Cousins, Gordon Wilson

Council: Bryce Blankenship

STAFF: Kelli Cooper

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission March 18, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff with further direction.

Victoria moved to approve the minutes as presented. Al seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Gordon abstains. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None.

1. City Parks Pesticide List

David Schott (Moscow Parks & Facilities Manager) has provided a list of pesticides and herbicides available for use by the city. The SEC typically reviews this list each year and makes recommendations if needed. David will also present a brief summary of the city's pesticide use policy, the plan to manage one pesticide-free park per calendar year, and an update on the City's Edible Forest - Harvest Park.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report or take other action as appropriate.

Pesticide list is presented and reviewed by SEC each year.

Moscow was designated a Bee City USA affiliate in 2022 and since then the City has also initiated a pesticide free park each year.

Legally the City does need to manage "noxious" weeds.

The City started a Strategic Irrigation Program. Which means they water ½" every 2 weeks during irrigation season. This follows the natural lawn cycle: spring green, summer dormancy, fall green.

David gave an overview of Harvest Park.

*Full presentation with pesticide list attached. (List is NOT what the City uses regularly, it is what the City has in stock)

2. Table at Farmers Market

The SEC will discuss available dates and potential activities for a table at the Farmers Market.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: discuss and take action as deemed appropriate

Group decided on June 28th and September 13th. They will give away seeds in the spring and outlet insulators in the fall.

3. Table at Art Walk

Signups are open for commission tables at Artwalk (June 25). The SEC will discuss members' interest in staffing a table.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: discuss and take action as deemed appropriate.

They also decided to have a table at the June Artwalk. This will serve for informational purposes and not so much for activities.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

A \$1,000 budget request was submitted.

Earth Day awards were featured in the ICLEI newsletter
Downtown cleanup up this Friday 9-11am
Kelli will be tabling at the U of I Earth Jam event.
City of Moscow will also have a table with PBAC at an Earth Day event hosted by Inland
Northwest on April 26th
The Water Conservation Plan is still being updated. It is currently in process with Legal.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report –

No report.

3. Climate Action Working Group – Tina Hilding

No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

May 20th

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM



Steve McGeehan, Chair *(or stamped by Deputy City Clerk)*



2025 CITY OF MOSCOW

PESTICIDE OVERVIEW

HARVEST PARK OVERVIEW

Sustainable Environment Commission – April 15, 2025



PESTICIDE OVERVIEW

Parks Pesticide Application Program

- Parks has a philosophy of minimal pesticide applications.
- Pesticide list is reviewed by the SEC each year.
- All Parks staff have a State of Idaho Professional Applicators license and follow the pesticide label.
- 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update, Action Item 2 Goal: Reduce pesticide use in public parks and properties.
- Pesticide usage is a tool in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) toolbox.

Parks Pesticide Application Program

- Have initiated a pesticide free park each year since 2022:
 - 2022 Anderson Frontier Park
 - 2023 Kiwanis Park
 - 2024 Triangle Park
 - 2025 Morgan's Orchard Park
- City of Moscow was designated as a Bee City USA affiliate in 2022.
 - Currently developing a formalized Integrated Pest Management Plan
 - Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management: Create and adopt an integrated pest management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.

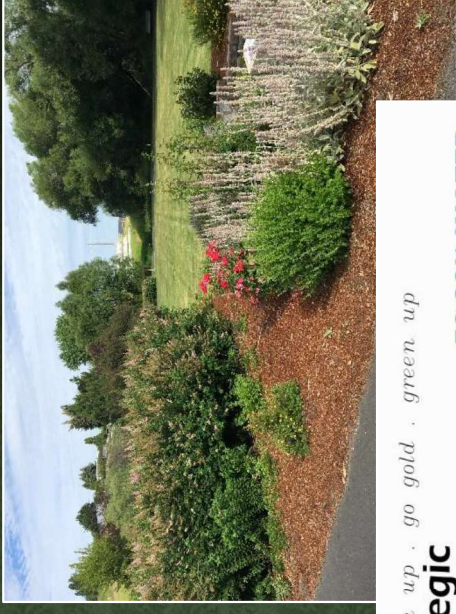


Regulations

- Weeds designated by the State of Idaho as “noxious” will be managed according to state law (Title 22 Agriculture and Horticulture Chapter 24 Noxious Weeds), as to be in accordance with state and federal laws.
- City Code 12-1 Definitions: Noxious Weed(s). Any plant having the potential to cause injury to public health, crops, livestock, land or other property, and which is designated as noxious by the Idaho Department of Agriculture or by Latah County pursuant to Idaho Code Title 22, Chapter 24. (Ord. 2010-20, 09/07/2010)

Integrated Pest Management

- Cultural: Only apply pesticides as needed.
 - Downtown Trees(25), aphids last treated in 2017
- Heavy mulching in landscape planters, Berman Creekside Park.
- Healthy turf minimizes weeds but...
 - Does require water.
 - Hydrowise irrigation control
 - Drought tolerate turf (Simplot Inferno tall fescue)
 - Strategic Irrigation Program
- Cover Crop, Harvest Park
- Community tolerance.



green up . go gold . green up

Strategic Irrigation Program

50-80% WATER SAVINGS

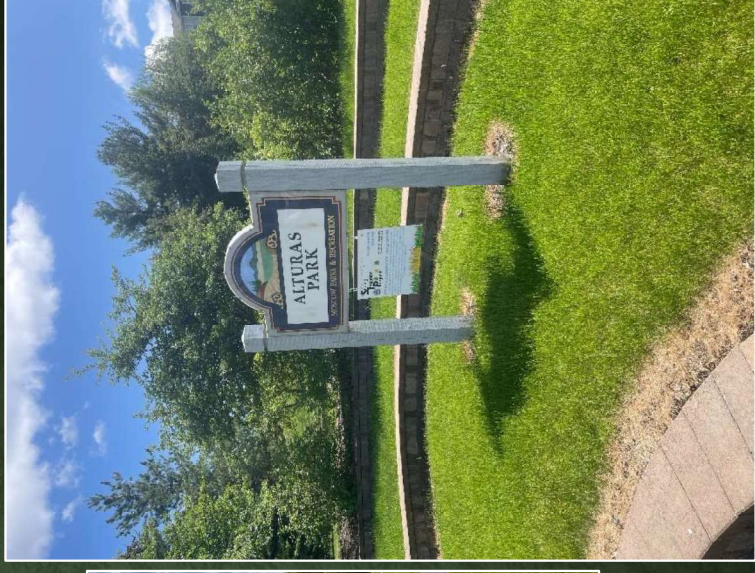
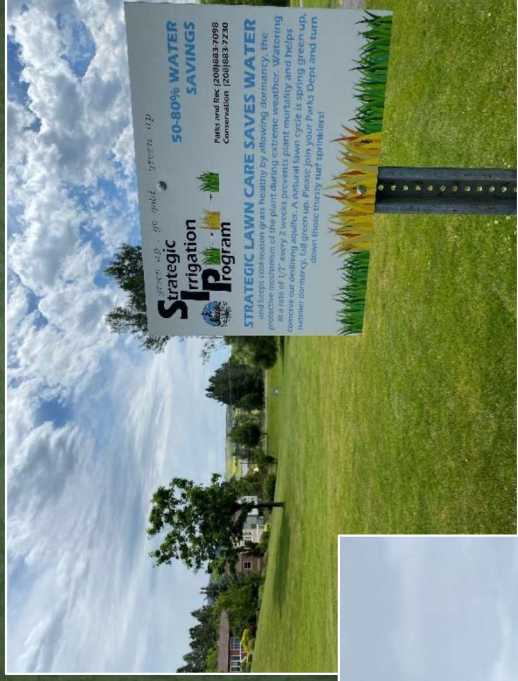
Parks and Rec (208)883-7098
Conservation (208)883-7230

STRATEGIC LAWN CARE SAVES WATER

and keeps cool-season grass healthy by allowing dormancy, the protective mechanism of the plant during extreme weather. Watering at a rate of 1/2" every 2 weeks prevents plant mortality and helps conserve our declining aquifer. A natural lawn cycle is spring green up, summer dormancy, fall green up. Please join your Parks Dept and turn down those thirsty turf sprinklers!

Integrated Pest Management

- Mechanical Control
 - Mowing
 - Handpulling
- Biological Controls
- Chemical Control



2025 Pesticide List

2025 Parks Pesticide List Inventory				
Category	Brand Name	Active Ingredient	Target	
Broad Spectrum Non-Selective Herbicides	Glystar	glyphosate: N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine	All plants	
	Ranger Pro	glyphosate: N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine	All plants	
	Aqua Star	glyphosate: N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine	All plants	
Selective Herbicides	SP 3Way	2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, Dimethylamine salt of MCPA, Dimethylamine salt of Dicamba	Any broadleaf Grass under roses	
	Fusilade II	Fluazip-P-butyl	Any broadleaf, Terrestrial use	
Surfactant	AquaSweep	2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, Dimethylamine salt; Triclopyr: 3,5,6-trichloro-2-pyridinyloxyacetic acid	Any broadleaf, Terrestrial use	
	TurfGro Spreader Sticker	Alkylphenol Ethoxylate, Propylene Glycol, Tall Fatty Acid, Dimethylpolysiloxane	Any broadleaf	
	R-11	Alkylphenol Ethoxylate, butyl alcohol, Dimethylpolysiloxane	Any broadleaf	
	TriCure Soil Surfactant	Dihydrooxirane, epihydrin	Hydrophobic soil	
	Spray Wet	Alkylphenol Ethoxylate, Pizopylene Glycol, Tall Oil Fatty Acids	Any broadleaf	
Pre-Emergent Herbicides	Oryzalin 4	Oryzalin: 3,5 dinitro-N4N4-dipropylsulfanilamide	All plants	
	Specticle FLO	Indaziflam	All plants	
	SureGuard SC	flumioxazin	All plants	
Turf Growth Management Herbicides	Podium	Trinexapac-ethyl	All plants	
Systemic Insecticide	Mallet 75 WSP	Imidacloprid: 1-[[6-chloro-3-pyridinyl)methyl]-N-nitro-2-imidazolidinimine	Aphids	
Dutch Elm Disease	Arbotect 20-S	Thiabendazole	Dutch Elm Disease	
Fungicide	Heritage fungicide	Azoxystrobin methyl	Fairy rings	
	Velista	Penthiopyrad	Fairy rings	

Summary

- Cultural: Only apply pesticides as needed.
- Measures to reduce pesticide usage.
 - Pesticide Free Park
 - One park per year
 - Selected by staff and communicated to PRC and SEC.
 - Rotates each year.
 - Includes a playground
 - Gives park visitors with pesticide sensitivities a park option
 - Excludes East City Park, Oylear Fields, and the Moscow School District Community Playfields.
 - Do not treat
 - Playgrounds
 - Berman Creekside Park Sensory and Butterfly Gardens
 - Harvest Park



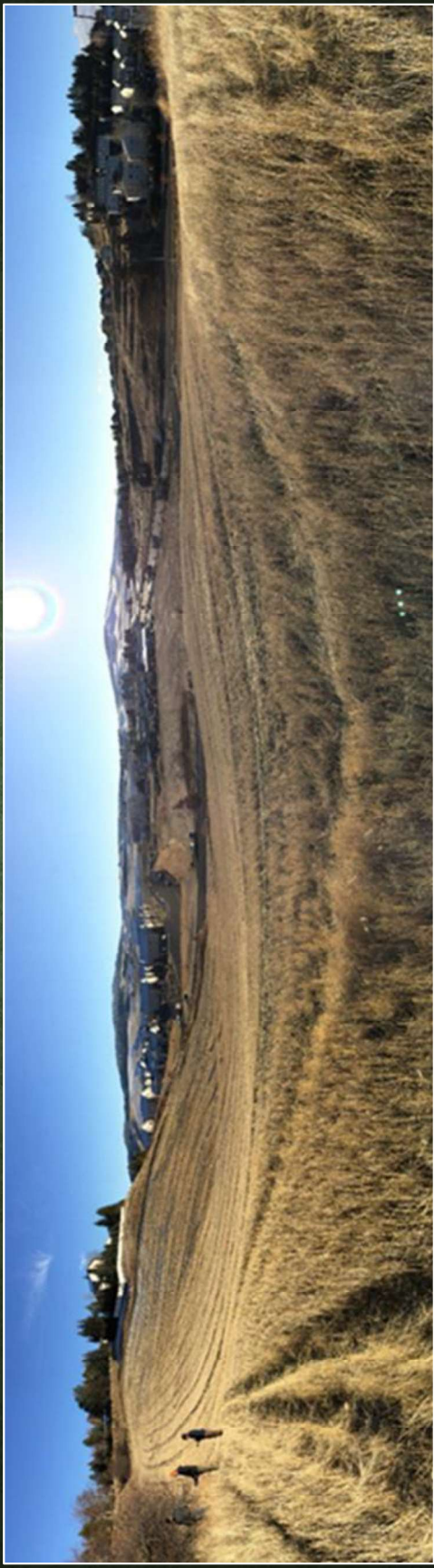
HARVEST PARK OVERVIEW

Introduction

- Harvest Park, located on Southview Avenue is a 4.09 acres site. The historic wheat field was acquired to be developed as an 'edible forest' with food-bearing trees, shrubs, and other flora.
- The City of Moscow initially received interest in the concept of an edible food forest through the Moscow Tree Commission.



Vision



- Harvest Park is a long term, dynamic landscape. This unique space is intended to provide educational opportunities and an example to our community of stewardship of a public food forest. This unique space will create a sense of place and community pride for the City of Moscow for generations to come.

Purpose

- The purpose of Harvest Park is to provide the community with a public food forest with a strong emphasis on public education and outreach about the benefits and pride in growing food.



Initial Goals

- Officially name the park.
- Conceptual planning.
- Develop a management plan for the Harvest Park.



Harvest Park Management Plan

Moscow's Public Edible Forest

Adopted June 27, 2022; Resolution 2022-18



WHAT IS SHEET MULCHING



- 2 inches of straw, leaves, or other leafy mulch
- 1 to 2 inches of compost
- 8 to 12 inches of hay, stable bedding, or other bulk organic matter
- Thin layer (1/4 to 1 inch) of manure or other nitrogen-rich material
- 1/4 to 1/2 inch of newspaper or cardboard
- Thin layer of manure
- Soil amendments (lime, rock, dust, gypsum, etc.)
- Strawed vegetation
- Soil surface
- Roots, cracks, moistened soil

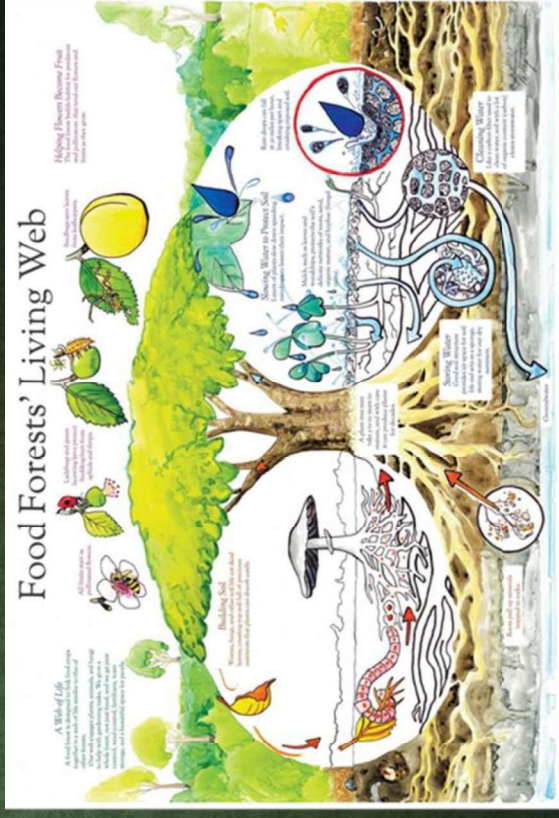
Sheet mulching diagram adapted from Edible Homestead's "Garden's Garden"



Harvest Park Management Plan Overview

- The Tree Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed and recommended approval to City Council in May of 2022.
- City Council approved the Harvest Parks Management Plan through Resolution 2022-18 in June of 2022.

- Guiding Principles
 - Equity and stewardship
 - Education
 - Community outreach
 - Development of a management plan
 - Maintenance



Harvest Park Highlights

- Phase 1 Capital Improvements.
- Pollinator habitat creation: Dogleg, Harvest Park
 - March 29 volunteer project
 - April 25 volunteer project
 - Stakeholder groups
 - UI Extension Service
 - Idaho Native Plant Society
 - Rural Roots
 - MSD Environmental Club
 - PCEI
 - Master Gardeners
 - Garden Club
 - Sierra Club
 - Local native plant nurseries.



-QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS-



David Schott
Parks and Facilities Manager
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