

**DRAFT Restrictions on “most hazardous” (Tier I) herbicides  
for the 2016 San Francisco Reduced Risk Pesticide List**

**Background**

In light of the recategorization of glyphosate as a Class 2A “Probable Carcinogen” by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a consortium of San Francisco Bay Area public agencies developed a general “Policy on the Safe Use of Herbicides” in 2015. The restrictions in this document are based on that policy, and apply only when herbicides categorized as “most hazardous” are used on City properties. In some cases, the allowed uses listed below may be pre-empted by the US EPA label language for the product in question.

The Reduced Risk Pesticide list limitations for individual products may refer to this language, and in some cases the permitted uses for a specific product may be more restrictive. *All other uses require an exemption granted by the San Francisco Department of the Environment.*

**Conditions of use for “most hazardous” herbicides**

*General prohibitions:*

1. No use for purely cosmetic purposes, including turf areas as well as other managed landscapes.
2. No use within 15 feet of designated public paths except for situations posing a public health or safety hazard. In these cases, the specific area treated must be clearly marked for four days after the treatment.
3. No broadcast spraying is permitted, except for targeted treatments at Harding Park golf course in preparation for tournament play.
4. No use on the grounds of schools, preschools, or children’s playgrounds.
5. No use within buffer zones (generally 60 feet) around water bodies designated as red-legged frog habitat.

*Allowed uses (as method of last resort):*

6. Airport runways falling under FAA regulations;
7. Utility rights of way falling under state or federal vegetation management requirements;
8. Poison oak immediately adjacent to paths or public use areas
9. Treatments for trees or weeds posing a public safety, public health or fire hazard
10. Landscape renovations, provided that weed prevention measures are put in place and the treated area is fenced off for four days after treatment.
11. Invasive species posing a threat to species or ecosystems of value to the community
12. Street median strips in situations where alternative control measures pose safety risks to applicators or the public.