

# Integrated Pest Management, (IPM)

An important part of the grounds management program at Coyote Run Golf Course is Integrated Pest Management, or IPM. In order to maintain decent playing surfaces, golf course must use a variety of chemical and fertilizers. Basically, IPM is a method of protecting the environment by:

- Selecting plants with that are adapted to the soil and microclimate of the planting location. During construction of Coyote Run, all of the turf-grasses on the course were selected for resistance to weeds, insects and diseases.
- Managing ornamentals and turf to avoid susceptibility to pests.
- Scouting and monitoring for pest populations; differentiating between biotic, (damage caused by a biological agent, like a fungal disease or insect damage), and a-biotic damage, (damage cause by weather extremes, heavy cart traffic, frost, etc.)
- Setting damage threshold levels; how many weed, how much disease or insect damage is tolerable?
- Employing cultural control first, such as: hand removal of weeds, irrigation scheduling to reduce disease incidence, removal of disease infected plant parts, (sanitation) etc.
- If chemical control is required, selecting the least toxic chemical at the lowest rate possible to reduce injury below threshold levels
- The use of modern spray equipment with computerized control systems control system to ensure proper rate of application, minimize drift, over-spray and mis-application of pesticides and fertilizers

There is no such thing as an insect, weed or disease-free landscape. Insects are a vital part of the environment and, overall, play an important beneficial role. Diseases are primarily an aesthetic issue and rarely kill a plant. Just because a pest is present doesn't necessarily mean there is a problem.

