

**Executive Order 13-01**  
**DeKalb County, Georgia**  
**Sustainable Landscape Management Policy**

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb County desires to become more environmentally responsible with regard to landscape practices and Integrated Pest Management (“IPM”) for the protection of our water supply and properties, and for the enjoyment of these resources by its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb County desires to utilize IPM practices that require the use of least toxic chemical pesticides; and

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb County desires to employ sustainable landscape management, which is environmentally responsible when installing landscaping at newly constructed County facilities and grounds; and

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb County desires to employ sustainable landscape management, which is environmentally responsible when maintaining landscaping at existing County facilities and grounds; and

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb County desires to improve the health and safety of all individuals in and around the County’s building landscapes and reduce risks associated with exposure to chemical fertilizers; and

**WHEREAS**, DeKalb County desires to use drought-tolerant landscaping practices that emphasize utilizing locally-adapted plants and promote a healthy landscape that will save water and require fewer chemicals.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County hereby establishes a policy that will govern DeKalb County landscaping practices for any County department or agency that installs or maintains landscape areas, as follows:

1. Implement an IPM strategy that is environmentally-sensitive, and will prevent and manage pests with minimal impact on human health, the environment, and organisms that are not intentionally targeted.
2. Maintain healthy, attractive plants by maximizing resistance to pests and out-competing weeds by utilizing sustainable landscape management practices.
3. Employ IPM practices to monitor for the presence of pests, and evaluate pest impact and the possible use of pesticides on plant health and appearance, and apply controlled treatments that target pests thereby minimizing negative effects on air and water quality.
4. Develop a sustainable landscape plan that is drought-tolerant and water-efficient, and requires minimal irrigation with potable water, inclusive of proper mulching and composting techniques, and incorporates native plants which require minimal chemical fertilizers that shall be selected wherever practicable.

5. Preserve non-invasive and existing vegetation where practical at newly constructed and existing County facilities and grounds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chief Executive Officer that all DeKalb County departments adhere to the aforementioned policy as it relates to landscaping at newly constructed and existing County facilities and grounds.

This order is effective immediately.

So issued this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013.



\_\_\_\_\_  
W. BURRELL ELLIS, JR.  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia