

Title: **Integrated Turf Management – Review of Current Practices**

Statement of Intent:

UMD Facilities Management will:

- **Determine specific campus appearance standards:**
 - **To demonstrate leadership in protecting the environment.**
 - **To reflect the needs of the campus.**
 - **To respect the aesthetics of the greater community.**
 - **To maintain a safe outside environment.**
 - **To optimize labor, materials and natural resources required maintaining the standard.**
- **Develop an Integrated Pest Management program:**
 - **To promote the health of the living landscape.**
 - **To choose the most appropriate plant materials.**
 - **To minimize the influx of disease and invasive species.**
 - **To protect water, air and energy resources.**

Review of Current Practices:

Athletics Turf: Mowing occurs every 3 to 5 days during the growing season depending on growing conditions. The fields are aerated 2-4 times per year. Occasionally an area may require more aeration – this is decided by usage. Fertilizer is applied to plant species for their optimum requirements according to soil testing. The playing surfaces are irrigated manually to provide adequate moisture. Herbicides are applied overall one time per year and spot treatment as required. Generally the athletic fields are a high-level maintenance area.

Campus Turf Areas: Mowing occurs every 5 –7 days during the growing season and possibly more often depending on growing conditions. Aeration occurs about once per season on the main campus. Aeration at off campus sites does not occur unless there is specific need. Fertilizer is applied one time per season. Soil tests are taken only if we have a severe problem. Herbicide is generally applied once per season, but additional spot applications or no application are done based on need (percentage of weeds per 1000 square feet).