

IRISH BEACH IMPROVEMENT CLUB

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April 1, 2009

Dear IBIC Member,

The 42nd Annual Meeting of the Irish Beach Improvement Club will take place on May 2, 2009 at the Greenwood Community Center in Elk beginning at 1:00PM. A social hour will follow the meeting with light refreshments provided. Enclosed you will find:

1. The meeting agenda.
2. Proxy vote form: If you cannot attend the meeting, you can still exercise your right to vote by assigning someone to vote for you by proxy. The completed form can be either mailed to the IBIC administrator or submitted at the meeting by the proxy holder. Completed, signed forms that do not designate a proxy will be voted by Leon Drolet, the President of the Board of Directors. **Your IBIC membership must be current in order to be eligible to vote. Dues payments will not be accepted at the meeting.**
3. Pampas Grass information

These documents are also available on the IBIC web site (ibiclub.com). You will also find the IBIC bylaws, proposed budget, minutes of past meetings and other information at this site. If you do not have internet access and would like a copy of any of these documents, please contact the IBIC secretary.

Election of Board of Directors: Three seats are up for election on the Board of Directors. These seats are held by Gene Cady, RJ Dial and Paula Gann, all of whom are seeking another term. Any IBIC member may serve on the Board. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

Please contact the IBIC administrator if you have questions or if we can be of assistance.

We hope to see you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

IBIC Board of Directors

President Leon Drolet, Vice President RJ Dial, Secretary Pam Harley, Treasurer Paula Gann, Maintenance Directors Gene Cady and Gerry Trujillo and Director Ginger Rodgers.

IRISH BEACH IMPROVEMENT CLUB
42nd ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Saturday, May 2, 2009 – 1:00 P.M.
Greenwood Community Center
AGENDA

I CALL TO ORDER

II APPROVE MINUTES

Minutes of May 3, 2008

III REPORTS

1. Maintenance
2. Membership
3. Architectural Design Committee
4. Road Improvement Ad Hoc Committee
5. Trail Development Ad Hoc Committee
6. Water Board
7. NEST
8. Treasurer's Report 2008-09 Fiscal Year

IV NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget for 2009-10 Fiscal Year
2. Consideration of options available to meet the IBIC obligations under the CC&R's for an Architectural Design Committee.
3. Election of Board of Directors

V ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE MEETING

VI ADJOURNMENT

PROXY

42nd ANNUAL MEETING-MAY 2, 2009
IRISH BEACH IMPROVEMENT CLUB

I hereby authorize _____ to vote on my behalf on all business to come before the membership of the Irish Beach Improvement Club at the Annual Meeting called by the Board of Directors for May 2, 2009. I may revoke this proxy by attending in person.

Signed forms that do not designate a proxy shall be voted by the President of the IBIC Board of Directors, Leon Drolet.

Signed _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Irish Beach Property Address _____

PAMPAS GRASS IN IRISH BEACH

Pampas Grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) is an invasive, non-native plant species that is found in coastal California, including the Irish Beach subdivision. Pampas grass spreads quickly and, once established, is difficult to control. It competes with native species and causes a fire hazard due to excessive build up of dried leaves and stalks. The Board of Directors of the Irish Beach Improvement Club estimates that two to three dozen properties in Irish Beach currently have pampas grass plants within their boundaries. If these plants are left to spread, there will soon be an explosion of pampas grass, both inside and outside Irish Beach. **YOU ARE STRONGLY URGED TO TAKE ACTION TO CONTROL ANY PAMPAS GRASS ON YOUR PROPERTY.** The enclosed article, written by Joseph M. DiTomaso and posted on the web site of UC Davis, describes the plant, its habitat and several methods for removal. You can also find a great deal of information by doing an online search.

HOW DO I RECOGNIZE IT?

Distinctive features:

Pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) is a perennial grass six to thirteen feet tall with long leaves folded at the midrib and arising from a tufted base or tussock. The inflorescence or flower cluster is a plumed panicle at the end of a stiff stem. Stems are equal to or slightly longer than the tussock. Plumes nearly always consist of light violet to silver-white hairy female flowers that rarely produce seed. Pampas grass is easily confused with jubata grass (*C. jubata*). The two species are distinguished by several features, including stem height, leaf, plume, and spikelet color, florets, leaf tip shape, and presence of viable seed. The tussocks of pampas grass are more erect and fountain-like, not spreading, when compared to tussocks of jubata grass.

WHERE WOULD I FIND IT?

Pampas grass is common as an ornamental throughout California, including interior regions. It has escaped cultivation and spread along sandy, moist ditch banks throughout coastal regions of southern California (Costas-Lippman 1977) below 1,000 feet (330 m). Its distribution is not as extensive as *Cortaderia jubata*, but it appears to be expanding (DiTomaso et al. 1998).

WHAT PROBLEMS DOES IT CAUSE?

Although the more aggressive *Cortaderia jubata* is often called pampas grass, true pampas grass (*C. selloana*) can also be weedy in California. In other areas of the world, particularly New Zealand and Australia, *C. selloana* is an important weed problem in forestry operations and conservation areas (Gadgil et al. 1984, Harradine 1991). In forests it competes with seedling trees and can slow their establishment and growth. Pampas grass creates a fire hazard with excessive build-up of dry leaves, leaf bases, and flowering stalks. In addition, heavy infestations can block access to plantations and pose a significant fire hazard. In conservation areas pampas grass competes with native vegetation, reduces the aesthetic and recreational value of these areas, and also increases the fire potential.

HOW DOES IT GROW AND REPRODUCE?

Establishment of seedlings generally occurs in spring and requires sandy soils, ample moisture, and light. Seedling survival is low in shaded areas or in competition with grasses (Gadgil et al. 1990) or sedges. Since few seeds are produced in California, little is known of the growth requirements. Unlike *Cortaderia jubata*, *C. selloana* can tolerate winter frost (Costas-Lippman 1977); it also tolerates warmer summer temperatures, more intense sunlight, and moderate drought. This accounts for its success as an ornamental in the Central Valley of California and its establishment as a weed along the American River

near Sacramento. Once established, roots of a single plant can occupy a soil volume of about 1,100 square feet (103 m²). Lateral roots can spread to thirteen feet (4 m) in diameter and eleven and one-half feet (3.5 m) in depth (Harradine 1991). Plants are capable of surviving about fifteen years (Moore 1994).

HOW CAN I GET RID OF IT?

Control of pampas grass is similar to that of jubata grass. Few strategies are available for the control of *Cortaderia selloana*. Burning does not provide long-term control, as plants resprout shortly thereafter. Infestations sometimes can be averted by overseeding open disturbed sites with desirable vegetation to prevent establishment of seedlings.

Physical control:

Manual methods: Pulling or hand grubbing *Cortaderia selloana* seedlings is highly effective. For larger plants however, a pulaski, mattock, or shovel are the safest and most effective tools for removing established clumps. To prevent resprouting, it is important to remove the entire crown and top section of the roots. Detached plants left lying on the soil surface may take root and reestablish under moist soil conditions (Harradine 1991). A large chainsaw or weedeater can expose the base of the plant, allow better access for removal of the crown, and make disposal of the detached plant more manageable (Moore 1994). Cutting and removing or burning the inflorescence prior to seed maturation in late summer may be important if seed production occurs in escaped populations of pampas grass. To reduce labor, the top of the foliage can be removed and the remaining crown treated with diesel oil (Cowan 1976).

Chemical control:

Control of pampas grass can be achieved by spot treatment with a post-emergence application of glyphosate at about 2 percent solution or eight qts/100 gal. The addition of a non-ionic or silicone-based surfactant may enhance foliar penetration of the herbicide. For most effective control, plants should be sprayed to wet, but not to the point of herbicide runoff. In one study, over 90 percent control was obtained during the first season, but continued spot applications were necessary to prevent rapid reestablishment (Madison 1992).

Fall applications result in better control compared to summer applications (Costello 1986) because photosynthetic assimilates are translocating downward at a faster rate late in the season. However, if viable seeds are produced, it may be necessary to apply the herbicide prior to seed maturation. Although studies were conducted on jubata grass, it is likely that low-volume (20 gal/ac) treatment with glyphosate at 4 percent can also provide excellent control of pampas grass. The reduced volume can lower the amount of herbicide used as well as the cost of the treatment (Drewitz et al. unpubl. data). Rope wick applications of glyphosate have also proven effective, but good coverage is essential or tillers will recover (Drewitz et al. unpubl. data).

Other registered post-emergence herbicides useful for control of *Cortaderia jubata*, may also be effective in the control of pampas grass.

For large clumps, the top foliage can be removed by cutting or burning and the regrowth treated with a systemic post-emergence herbicide. This method reduces the amount of herbicide applied compared to herbicide treatment alone (Harradine 1991).