

PEST MANAGEMENT SCHOOL FACILITIES AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

The Board recognizes that structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems for people and school unit property, but that use of some pesticides may raise concerns among parents, students and staff. It is therefore the policy of MSAD #59 to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles and procedures for the control of structural and landscape pests. A copy of this policy shall be kept in every school and made available upon request to staff, parents, students and the public.

Section 1

The Superintendent and/or designee shall develop and implement a Pest Management Plan consistent with the following IPM principles and procedures:

A. Appointment of an IPM Coordinator

The Superintendent/designee will appoint an IPM Coordinator for the school unit. The IPM Coordinator will be the primary contact for pest control matters and will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the IPM plan, including making pest control decisions.

The IPM Coordinator will consult with the building principal and/or Superintendent before a decision is made to do a pesticide application for which notice is required and before providing notification of the planned application.

The IPM Coordinator's responsibilities may include:

1. Recording and monitoring data and pest sightings by school staff and students;
2. Coordinating pest management with pest control contractors;
3. Recording and ensuring that maintenance and sanitation recommendations are carried out where feasible;
4. Ensuring that any pesticide use is done according to the school unit's Pest Management Plan and Chapter 27 Me. Dept. of Agriculture Board of Pesticides Control Rules ("Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in Schools");
5. Making the school system's pest management policy available in every school building;
6. Having available for parents and staff a copy of the Maine regulation pertaining to pesticide applications in schools (Chapter 27 Me. Dept. of Agriculture Board of

Pesticides Control “Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in Maine Schools”) and a record of prior pesticide applications and information about the pesticides used.

7. Initiating and coordinating notification of parents and staff of pesticide applications according to the school unit’s notification procedure and posting notification signs as appropriate; and

8. Recording all pesticides used by either a professional applicator or school staff and maintaining other pest control data.

Section 2

Definitions

A. Integrated Pest Management. For the purposes of this regulation, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) means the selection, integration and implementation of pest damage prevention and control based on predicted socioeconomic and ecological consequences, including: (1) understanding the system in which the pest exists, (2) establishing dynamic economic or aesthetic injury thresholds and determining whether the organism or organism complex warrants control, (3) monitoring pests and natural enemies, (4) when needed, selecting the appropriate system of cultural, mechanical, genetic, including resistant cultivars, biological or chemical prevention techniques or controls for desired suppression, and (5) systematically evaluating the pest management approaches utilized.

B. School. For the purposes of this regulation, School means any public or private elementary or secondary school, kindergarten or nursery school that is part of an elementary or secondary school or a tribally funded school.

C. School Building. For the purposes of this regulation, School Building means any structure used or occupied by students or staff of any school.

D. School Grounds. For the purposes of this regulation, School Grounds means:

1. land associated with a school building including playgrounds, athletic fields and agricultural fields used by students or staff of a school, and
2. any other outdoor area used by students or staff that is under the control of a school.

E. Integrated Pest Management Coordinator. The lead person in a school system or school who is knowledgeable about integrated pest management and

is designated by each school to implement the school pest management policy.

Section 3

Identification of Specific Pest Thresholds

Routine inspection and accurate identification of pests are needed to recognize potential problems and determine when action should be taken.

Action thresholds for specific sites will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the IPM Coordinator in consultation with the building principal and/or Superintendent, and if necessary, with the advice of a professional pest control expert.

As pest management objectives will differ from site to site (e.g., maintaining healthy turf and specific playing surfaces on athletic fields, carpenter ant control in buildings, maintenance of ornamental plants), differences should be considered before setting an action threshold.

Section 4

Pesticide Applicators

Any person who applies pesticides in school buildings or on school grounds, including school personnel, must possess a Maine pesticide applicators license and should be trained in the principles and practices of IPM. All pesticide use must be approved by the school unit's IPM Coordinator. Applicators must follow state regulations and label precautions and must comply with the IPM policy and pest management plan.

[Note: School personnel do not need to be licensed for normal or routine cleaning practices, for emergency stinging insect control or use of repellants for personal protection. However, school personnel do need to be licensed if they will be using pesticides in school facilities or on school grounds.]

Section 5

Selection, Use and Storage of Pesticides

Pesticides should be used only when needed. Non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented whenever possible to provide the desired control. The choice of using a pesticide will be based on a review of other available options (sanitation, exclusion, mechanical means, trapping, biological control)

and a determination that these options have not worked or are not feasible. When it has been determined that a pesticide must be used to achieve pest management goals, the least hazardous effective pesticide should be selected. Application should be conducted in a manner that, to the extent practicable using currently available technology, minimizes human risk.

Decisions concerning the particular pesticide to be used and the timing of pesticide application should take into consideration the use of the buildings or grounds to be treated.

Pesticide purchases should be limited to the amount expected to be used for a specific application or during the year. Pesticides will be stored and disposed of in accordance with label directions and state and federal regulations. Pesticides must be stored in an appropriate, secured location not accessible to students or unauthorized personnel.

Section 6

A. The following pesticide uses are exempt from the requirements of Section 7 and 8 of this Chapter:

1. application of ready-to-use general use pesticides by hand or with non-powered equipment to control or repel stinging or biting insects when there is an urgent need to mitigate or eliminate a pest that threatens the health or safety of a student, staff member or other occupant,
2. application of general use antimicrobial products by hand or with non-powered equipment to interior or exterior surfaces and furnishings during the course of routine cleaning procedures, and
3. application of paints, stains or wood preservatives that are classified as general use pesticides.

B. The following pesticide uses are exempt from the requirements of Section 7 of this Chapter:

1. non-volatile liquids injected into cracks, crevices or wall voids,
2. non-volatile baits, gels, pests and granular materials placed in areas inaccessible to students,
3. indoor or outdoor applications performed when school is not in session and will not be in session until the re-entry or restricted entry interval specified on the pesticide label has elapsed, and
4. indoor application of a pesticide with no re-entry or restricted entry interval specified on its label but entry to the treated area is restricted for at least 24 hours.

Section 7

Notification

A. Within the first two weeks of every school year, notice shall be given by all schools to all school staff and parents or legal guardians of students advising them that a school integrated pest management policy exists and where it may be reviewed, that pesticides may periodically be applied in school buildings and on school grounds and that applications will be noticed in accordance with Sections 4(B-d) hereof. This notice shall also state that a report of prior pesticide applications and information about the pesticides used a copy of the Pesticides in Schools regulation (CMR 01-026 Chapter 27) are available for review.

B. Notices given as required by Section 4C shall state, as a minimum: (a) the trade name and EPA Registration number of the pesticide to be applied; (b) the approximate date and time of the application; (c) the location of the application; (d) the reasons for the application; and (e) the name and phone number of the person to whom further inquiry regarding the application may be made. These notices must be sent to school staff and parents or legal guardians of students at least five days prior to the planned application.

C. Schools shall provide notice of pesticide applications in accordance with either Section 4C(1) or 4C(2).

1. Notice may be given to all school staff and parents or legal guardians of students using a school whenever pesticide applications not exempted by Section 6 are performed inside a school building or on the school grounds, or
2. The school may establish a notification registry whereby persons wishing notification of each application performed inside a school building or on school grounds may make a written request to be put on the registry list to receive notice whenever pesticide applications not exempted by Section 6 are performed.

D. In addition to notice provisions above, whenever pesticide application not exempted by Section 6 are performed in a school building or on school grounds, a sign shall be posted at each point of access to the treated area and in a common area of the school at least two working days prior to the application and for at least forty-eight hours following the application. Posting of the notification signs as required by this Chapter satisfies the posting requirements of Chapter 28 of the Board's regulations.

1. The signs shall be:
 - a. At least 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches tall for indoor applications.

- b. At least 5 inches wide by 4 inches tall for outdoor applications.
 - c. Made of rigid, weather resistant materials that will last at least ninety-six (96) hours when placed outdoors, and
 - d. Light colored (white, beige, yellow or pink) with dark, bold letters (black, blue, red or green).
2. The signs for indoor applications must bear:
- a. The word CAUTION in 72 point type,
 - b. The words PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTICE in 30 point type or larger,
 - c. Any reentry precautions from the pesticide labeling in at least 12 point type,
 - d. The trade name and EPA Registration number(s) of the pesticide(s) to be applied in at least 12 point type,
 - e. The approximate date and time of the application in at least 12 point type,
 - f. The location of the application in at least 12 point type,
 - g. The reason(s) for the application in at least 12 point type, and
 - h. The name and phone number in at least 12 point type of the person to whom further inquiry may be made regarding the application.
3. The signs for outdoor applications must bear:
- a. The word CAUTION in 72 point type,
 - b. The words PESTICIDE APPLICATION in 30 point type or larger,
 - c. The Board designated symbol (see appendix A),
 - d. Any reentry precautions from the pesticide labeling in at least 12 point type,
 - e. The trade name and EPA Registration number(s) of the pesticide(s) to be applied in at least 12 point type,
 - f. The approximate date and time of the application in at least 12 point type,
 - g. The location of the application in at least 12 point type,
 - h. The reason(s) for the application in at least 12 point type, and
 - i. The name and phone number of the person to whom further inquiry regarding the application may be made in at least 12 point type.

Section 8

Integrated Pest Management Techniques

- A. All pest management activities should be conducted using appropriate

elements of integrated pest management as described in the latest Cooperative Extension or Department of Agriculture training manuals for pest management in and/or on school property. In all cases, the application should be conducted in a manner to minimize human risk to the maximum extent practicable using currently available technology.

B. Prior to any pesticide application the following steps must be taken and recorded:

1. monitor for pest presence or conditions conducive to a pest outbreak,
2. identify the pest specifically,
3. determine that the pest population exceeds acceptable safety, economic or aesthetic threshold levels established in the IPM policy, and
4. utilize non-pesticide control measures that have been demonstrated to be practicable, effective and affordable.

C. When a pesticide application is deemed necessary, the licensed applicator must take into account the toxicity of recommended products and choose lowest risk products based on efficacy, the potential for exposure, the signal word on the pesticide label, the material safety data sheet, other toxicology data and any other label language indicating special problems such as toxicity to wildlife or likelihood of contaminating surface or ground water.

D. Pesticide applications must not be conducted when people are in the immediate area to be treated. When space, spot or fumigation applications are conducted the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in the area must be shut off or the entire building just be evacuated. Applications should be planned to occur on weekends or vacations to allow maximum time for sprays to dry and vapors to dissipate.

E. Indoor pesticide use must be limited to placement of baits and wall void or crack and crevice treatments unless the pest threatens the health and safety of persons in the buildings as determined by the school's integrated pest management coordinator.

F. Outdoor applications must be conducted in accordance with all other applicable Board regulations designed for minimizing pesticide drift and posting of treated sites. Spot treatments should be considered in lieu of broadcast applications.

G. The Integrated Pest Management Coordinator must maintain records for a period of two years following all pesticide applications performed along with the labels and material safety data sheets for all products used in or on school property.

Section 9

Record Keeping

When a pesticide has been used, records pertinent to the application including labels and material safety data sheets will be maintained at a designated central location [OR: at the school site] for two years following application. Records are to be completed on the day the pesticide is applied. Pest surveillance records should be maintained to verify the need for pesticide treatments.

Legal References: 7 MRSA §§ 601-625
7 MRSA § 604(25)
22 MRSA §§ 1471-A – 1471-X
Ch. 27 Me. Dept. of Agriculture Board of Pesticides Control
Rules (Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public
Notification in Schools)

Cross References: EBAA – Chemical Hazards

Policy Adopted: 11/03