

PEST MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOL FACILITIES AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

The objective of the school department's IPM program is to provide effective pest control while minimizing pesticide use. The goals of the IPM program include managing pests to reduce any potential hazards to human health, preventing loss or damage to school structures or property, preventing pests from spreading beyond the site of infestation to other school property, and enhancing the quality of life for students, staff and others. These goals will be addressed through the following regulations developed by the Superintendent and/or designee for a school department pest management plan.

- A. The Superintendent/designee appoints the Director of Transportation and Grounds as the IPM Coordinator for the school department. 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's responsibilities shall also include:

1. Recording and monitoring data and pest sightings by school staff and students;
 2. Meeting with pesticide applicators to share information about pest problems in school buildings and on school grounds;
 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 department's Pest Management Plan;
 5. Evaluating the school department's progress in implementing the Pest Management Plan;
 6. Coordinating notification of parents and staff of pesticide applications according to the school department's notification procedure; and
 7. Recording all pesticides used by either a professional applicator or school staff as a means to track compliance with the school department's IPM policy.
- B. 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. An "action threshold" should be determined by the IPM Coordinator, reflecting the pest control objective for each site. 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.
- C. Pesticide Applicators
Any person who applies pesticides in school buildings or on school grounds must possess a Maine pesticides applicator's license and should be trained in the principles and practices of IPM. All pesticide use must be approved by the school department's IPM Coordinator. Applicators must follow state

regulations and label precautions, and must comply with the IPM policy and pest management plan.

D. Selection, Use and Storage of Pesticides

Pesticides should be used only when needed. Non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented wherever 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 used.

Decisions concern 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.

E. Notification of Students, Staff and Parents of Use of Pesticides

An Annual Pest Management Notification will be included in each student and staff handbook. This notice will briefly explain the school department's pesticide use policy and indicate that pesticides maybe used both indoors or outdoors, as needed.

The school department's IPM coordinator will establish a notification registry whereby persons wishing to be notified may submit a written request to be put on the list and be notified of pesticide application as outlined in the annual notice (File ECB-E1). The coordinator will also notify the Brunswick School Department's Administrative Team as well as put any special notifications on the school department's website.

F. Recordkeeping

In order to keep track of pesticide use and locate problem areas in buildings and on school grounds, records of pesticide use will be maintained at each school site for three years. 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 §604(25)
22 MRSA §§1471-A--1471-X

Cross References: EBAA - Chemical Hazards

Adopted: 12/10/03