

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Hazardous Material in Schools

Pesticide Application

In conformity with all applicable statutes, the intent of this policy is to ensure that staff, students, and parents/guardians receive adequate advance notice of pesticide applications in school buildings or on school grounds. Further the District will only employ certified pesticide applicators for any non-emergency pesticide use in the school buildings or grounds. However, someone other than a certified pesticide applicator may apply a pesticide in an emergency to eliminate an immediate human health threat when (1) it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator and (2) a restricted use pesticide is not used

A **“pesticide”** is defined as a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide, or a rodenticide but does **not** mean a sanitizer, disinfectant, antimicrobial agent or pesticide bait.

The Putnam School System uses an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management known as Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

“Integrated pest management” is defined as the use of all available pest control measures, including the judicious use of pesticides when warranted to maintain a pest population at or below an acceptable level while decreasing the unnecessary use of pesticides. The goal of the IPM is to deliver effective pest control while at the same time reducing the volume and toxicity of pesticide used as well as human and environmental exposure to pesticides. Each school will contract monthly monitoring to aid in the early detection of pest problems. Both physical and cultural solution will be employed to decrease out reliance on pesticides. When chemical treatments are required, pesticidal baits will be utilized first whenever practical. Problems requiring further treatments or situations when baits are not practical will be treated using products from an established hierarchy starting with the least toxic products first. Staff, parents and guardians may register at the school to be notified 24 hours prior to the application of a pesticide (excluding baits). Emergency applications to correct an immediate threat to health of students or staff will be notified by any means practical on or before the day of the application.

A **“lawn care pesticide”** is defined as pesticide registered by the EPA and labeled according to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act for lawn, garden and ornamental use.

The Board is committed to minimizing the use of pesticides. Therefore, the primary practice of pest control shall involve reducing/eliminating the conditions necessary for pest survival. These measures include but are not limited to good housekeeping and routine, prompt maintenance of buildings and grounds.

The application of lawn care pesticides on the grounds of elementary schools must be according to an integrated pest management plan (IPM). Such application is prohibited starting July 1, 2008 except in emergencies. An emergency application may be made to eliminate a human health threat as determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Hazardous Material in Schools (continued)

As required by state statute, the District shall:

- Annually inform parents/guardians and staff of the District's pest application/management policy and a description of any pesticide applications made during the previous school year.
- Establish a registry of parents/guardians and staff who want to receive advance notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice. Parents, guardians, and staff who would like to be notified of the pesticide applications may register with the school by letter. A letter will notify registrants, the day before the application is done. Notification will include: (1) the name of the active ingredient of the pesticide being applied, (2) the location of the application on school property, (3) the date of the application, and (4) the name of the school administrator or a designee who may be contacted for further information.

Those who register will also be notified as soon as possible of any emergency pesticide applications that are made and if there is a revision or modification to the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan.

- Provide notice of planned pesticide application to students, parents/guardians and employees.
- Make pesticide applications only after regular school hours or planned activities.
- Maintain written records for five years of all pesticide applications.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 22a-46 Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.
 22a-54 Pesticide applicators, certification, classification, notice, fees, reciprocity; financial responsibility; aircraft, tree, public employee applicators.
 22a-58 Records to be kept by distributors and applicators.
 23-61a Definitions. Tree protection examining Board within Department of Consumer Protection. Regulations.
 23-61b Licensing for arboriculture; examination; fees; renewal; suspension, revocation. Nonresidents. Records. Pesticides.
 Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) 7 U.S. Code 136 et seq.
 PA 99-165 An Act Concerning Notice of Pesticide Applications at Schools and Day Care Centers.
 PA 05-252 An Act Concerning Pesticides at Day Care Facilities

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PUTNAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Putnam, Connecticut