

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Healthy Schools Act of 2000 (Education Codes 17608-17613) declares that it is the policy of the state that effective least toxic pest management practices should be the preferred method of managing pests at school sites and requires school districts and county offices of education to comply with specific safety and notification procedures when pesticides are applied at school sites.

The Board of Education recognizes that structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems to people, property, and the environment. Pesticides (including herbicides) can also pose risks to people, property and the environment. It is therefore the policy of the Board of Education to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures for control of structural and landscape pests. The Superintendent shall designate an IPM Coordinator to manage the program.

Pests

Pests are populations of animals, plants, insects, or microorganisms that interfere with the use of Office of Education work sites. Strategies for managing pest populations will be influenced by the pest species and whether that species poses a threat to people, property, or the environment.

Pest Management

The IPM Coordinator shall be responsible for developing pest management plans for each site and will include proposed pest management measures.

Site pest management objectives will include:

- (a) Reducing any potential human health hazard or protecting against a significant threat to public safety
- (b) Preventing loss or damage to Office of Education property
- (c) Preventing the spread of pests into the community or to plant and animal populations beyond Office of Education property
- (d) Enhancing the quality of life for students, staff and the public

Integrated Pest Management Procedures

It is the policy of the Office of Education to use IPM principles to manage pest populations.

The IPM Coordinator shall be responsible for the development of IPM procedures and will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural or biological means. IPM practices will depend on current, comprehensive information on the pest and its environment and the least invasive pest control methods. In applying IPM principles, the objective will be to prevent unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage by

the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment. The full range of alternatives, including no action, will be considered.

The choice of using a pesticide will be based on a review of all other available actions and a determination that the alternative options are not feasible. Selected non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented whenever possible to provide the desired control and must be reviewed and approved by the IPM Coordinator and or designee.

When it is determined that a pesticide must be used to meet pest management goals, the least hazardous pesticide will be used. The application of pesticides is subject to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 United States Code, 136 et seq.), Environmental Protection Agency regulations in 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Cal-OSHA regulations, local government regulations and Office of Education policies and procedures.

Notification

All Office of Education staff and parents/guardians of pupils enrolled at Office of Education school sites shall be provided annual written notification of the name and active ingredient(s) of all non-exempt pesticide/herbicide products expected to be applied to Office of Education sites by staff or an outside contractor in the upcoming year. Notification shall include the Internet address to the Department of Pesticide Regulation's IPM Program web site (<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov>).

The annual notice shall offer interested staff and parents/guardians the opportunity to register with the Office of Education if they wish to be notified of individual pesticide applications at an Office of Education site before they occur. Persons who register for such notification shall be notified of individual pesticide applications at least 72 hours prior to the application. The notice shall include the product name, the active ingredient(s) in the product and the intended date of application.

If a pesticide product not included in the annual notification is subsequently intended for use at an Office of Education site, the IPM Coordinator shall provide written notification to all staff and parent/guardians of students at least 72 hours prior to application.

Warning signs shall be posted at each area of the site where pesticides will be applied. The signs shall be posted 24 hours in advance and 72 hours after applications. The signs shall be sufficient to restrict uninformed access to pesticide-treated areas.

Emergencies

An emergency condition is any circumstance in which the IPM Coordinator determines that the immediate use of a pesticide is necessary to protect the health and safety of pupils, staff or other persons, or Office of Education property. Pest control measures taken during an emergency condition shall not be subject to the notification and posting requirements detailed above; however, the IPM Coordinator or designee shall make every effort to provide notification of an application. In the case of an emergency pesticide application, a warning sign shall be posted immediately upon application and shall remain posted until 72 hours after the application.

Record Keeping

The IPM Coordinator shall be responsible for record keeping of pesticide use and shall maintain records for 4 years. The records shall be made available to the public upon request.

Pesticide Applicators

Pesticide applicators must be educated and trained in the principles and practices of IPM and the use of pesticides approved by the Office of Education. Applicators must follow federal, state, and local agency regulations and pesticide label precautions when applying pesticides. Applicators must be State of California licensed as structural and agricultural pesticide applicators and must comply with the Office of Education's IPM policy and Integrated Pest Management Plans.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE*17608-17613 Healthy Schools Act of 2000**48980-48980.3 Notification of Parents and Guardians; Pesticide Use*FOOD AND AGRICULTURE CODE*11410-15206.6 Pest Control Operations And Agricultural Chemicals*HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE*105500 et seq. Healthy Schools Act of 2000*7 UNITED STATES CODE*136 et seq. Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act*

Policy

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Humboldt County Office of Education

Eureka, California