

720.1 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Statement of Purpose

This plan has been developed to ensure the health and safety of students, teachers, staff, administration and all others using the district's buildings and grounds, while at the same time controlling pest populations in an effective and environmentally sound manner.

This plan will rely on sanitation, habitat modification, monitoring and the use of non-toxic and least toxic products and techniques to control pests, rather than the use of potentially dangerous chemical pesticides.

This plan recognizes that Integrated Pest Management is a collaborative effort involving the administration, teachers, students, facilities staff and pest control operators, among others, and that the gathering and sharing of information is critical to ensuring the success of this IPM initiative.

Definitions

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the coordinated use of physical, biological and cultural controls and least toxic pest control products and techniques to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment.

IPM involves the monitoring of pest populations, establishment of injury levels, modification of habitats (to eliminate sources of food, water, harborage and entry), utilization of least-toxic controls, keeping of records and evaluation of performance on an ongoing basis.

A **pesticide** will be defined as an insecticide, rodenticide, herbicide, acaricide, algacide, slimicide, disinfectant or other chemical utilized to kill or repel a pest.

Integrated Pest Management Coordinator

The District IPM Coordinator responsibilities include the following:

- Recording all pesticide use
- Coordinating with contractors the use of pesticides and the intention of the District's IPM policy/plan
- Assuring that all recommendations on maintenance and sanitation are carried out where feasible
- Assuring that any pesticide is applied when students and staff are not in areas where pesticides are being applied
- Evaluating the school's progress in the IPM plan

Pesticide Applicators

When pesticide use is necessary, the District will insure that the persons applying pesticides are trained and knowledgeable in pest control and pesticide use. Any use of pesticides must be approved by the District, the District IPM Coordinator or the Buildings & Grounds Director. Applicators must comply with all state regulations and follow label directions. Applicators must comply with the District IPM policy/pesticides use management plan.

Treated school grounds will be posted with the date of application, pesticide product used and instructions on when areas may be used for recreational purposes.

Monitoring

Understanding what kinds of pests are present, where they are, and how big their populations are is essential for successfully eliminating problems. Treatments will not be applied unless monitoring indicates a pest problem in excess of specified injury levels.

Structural pests will be monitored via direct inspection, sticky traps, pheromone baits, tracking powder, mechanical traps and glue boards as necessary.

Injury Levels

Also known as “tolerance” or “threshold” levels, injury levels determine the point at which treatment is necessary. Appropriate injury levels will be set, and take into consideration economic losses (example: amount of foodstuffs contaminated by pantry pests), health risks (example: occurrence of disease-bearing pests), aesthetic evaluations (example: temporary presence of ants), nuisance problems (example: stinging insects) and pest visibility. It is neither possible, nor desirable, to completely exterminate every pest and potential pest from every population on school property.

Habitat Modification

In every structural environment the food, water, harborage and entry points that attract and sustain pest populations will be eliminated. Proper sanitation, which will involve a coordinated effort by all building occupants, is absolutely essential. Sanitation will be conducted effectively and routinely, will extend to all areas of the school facility, and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to improve performance and correct oversights.

The following is a general guide to habitat modifications to be assessed and implemented in key areas throughout the school facility. Appropriate pest monitoring will also be conducted in each area.

Entryways (including doorways, overhead doors, windows, wall cracks and crevices, electrical fixtures, pipe spaces, drain ducts and loading docks)

- Make sure doors are not propped or left open
- Install weather-stripping and door sweeps
- Caulk wall cracks and crevices
- Install screens in doors and windows and keep them in good repair
- Keep shrubs grass and mulches at least one foot away from buildings
- Eliminate food waste and debris from loading docks.

Classrooms and Offices (including classrooms, laboratories, libraries, administration offices, auditoriums, gymnasiums, hallways and stairways)

- Allow food and beverages in designated areas only
- Clean dishes, coffee machines, microwaves and toaster ovens and utensils thoroughly on a regular basis
- Store condiments and food (including craft supplies and pet food) in tightly sealed containers
- Prohibit the extended storage of food in desks and lockers
- Inspect plants and animals (example: science projects, houseplants) regularly for pest problems
- Vacuum and remove trash on a daily basis

Food Preparation and Serving Areas (including cafeteria, kitchen, teacher's lounge, home economics room, snack area, vending machines, food storage areas and walk-in coolers)

- Store food, beverages and food wastes in tightly sealed, lidded containers
- Remove food waste daily
- Screen vents, windows and floor drains
- Keep area clean and dry by sweeping and mopping, quickly disposing of food waste, removing clutter, and fixing leaky pipes and faucets
- Clean grease traps regularly
- Caulk cracks and crevices
- Clean behind and underneath appliances, coolers, vending machines and waste disposal units

Plumbing and Maintenance Areas (including bathrooms, sinks, utility rooms, locker rooms, dish rooms, laboratories, art studios, home economic rooms, pool areas, boiler room, mechanical room, mop room and pipe chases)

- Repair leaks and other plumbing problems immediately to eliminate water sources
- Clean floor drains routinely
- Clean mop and buckets promptly, dry buckets and hang mops off of floor above drain
- Seal pipe chases
- Eliminate piles of clutter
- Remove trash regularly

Waste Disposal and Recycling Areas (including garbage cans, dumpsters, recycling bins and outdoor garbage storage areas)

- Secure dumpsters with heavy, tight-fitting lids
- Clean the outsides of dumpsters regularly
- Store food wastes securely
- Clean in, under and around recyclables frequently
- Empty garbage cans regularly

Least-Toxic Controls

Controls will be instituted only when a pest has exceeded designated injury levels, as determined through monitoring. Every effort should be made to modify the habitat to the point where it neither invites nor sustains injurious pest populations, thus minimizing the need for pest controls.

Biological and physical controls will be instituted prior to the use of chemical controls. Only chemical controls least toxic to humans, non-target species and the environment will be acceptable. Organophosphate and carbamate pesticides will not be employed for pest control.

Least toxic controls have been formulated for each type of structural pest, and continue to be developed and improved.

Biological controls include the appropriate conservation of pests' natural predators, parasites and diseases, and the judicious augmentation of these species via predator releases, applications of parasites and inoculations of diseases.

Physical controls include:

- Desiccants (diatomaceous earth, silica areogel)
- Barriers (sticky, band, water)
- Traps (mechanical, glueboard, sticky)
- Environmental manipulation (of temperature, humidity or light)
- Electric currents (electrogun, electric fences and traps)
- Manual removal (nets, lice combs)

Storage

Storage of harmful products will be kept to a minimum. If storage instructions are included, the instructions will be followed explicitly. All such products and the application equipment will be stored in separate facilities from other activities and especially separated from food products or occupied rooms. All storage facilities will be maintained as a locked area and will be clearly marked as containing pesticides.

All harmful products will have complete label instructions and will remain in the original container. The material safety data sheet information will be on file and readily available to any employee who must handle such materials or who may have been exposed to the product. The information is also available to any member of the public upon request. Pest management questions should be directed to the Director of Buildings and Grounds.

APPROVED: June 17, 2002