

8432 - PEST CONTROL AND USE OF PESTICIDES

This administrative guideline is established in an attempt to assure proper control of any pesticides or other harmful chemicals that might be used on Corporation premises. "Pesticide" is defined as a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide, or a rodenticide.

The intent of this guideline is to prevent unnecessary exposure of staff members, students, or the public to potentially harmful substances.

Pesticides will be applied only by certified pesticide applicators or individuals operating under their supervision. The certified pesticide applicator shall train non-certified staff members who apply pesticides. The training must include:

- A. a review of the Corporation's pest control policy;
- B. a review of the label instructions for the pesticides to be used;
- C. methods to determine when an application of a pesticide is necessary;
- D. how to minimize potential pesticide exposure to students, teachers, and staff;
- E. what activities are prohibited;
- F. written documentation of the training.

An emergency application of pesticides is defined as to when an application of pesticides is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health and where it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator provided such emergency application does not involve a restricted use pesticide. Restricted use pesticides may be used only by certified applicators or under their direct supervision.

At the time of registration for each school year, the School Board shall provide the staff members of each school and the parents of each child enrolled in each school with a written copy of the Board's policy on pesticide applications, the name and telephone number of the school contact person for pest control information, and a request form for those wishing to be placed on a list for advanced notice. This information may be given in the form of a memorandum or as a provision in the student and/or staff handbook. This information shall also be provided to the parents of any child who transfers into a school during the school year. A request for such notice may be made at any time during the school year.

Parents and staff members may register for prior notice of pesticide applications. Each school principal shall maintain a registry of persons requesting such notice. Prior to the application of pesticides within any building or on school grounds, the parents and staff members who have registered for prior notice shall receive a mailing to be received no later than two (2) school days prior to the application unless an emergency is declared.

The aforementioned notice shall include the (1) name of the active ingredient of the pesticide to be applied if part of a routine scheduled service, (2) location of the application, (3) date of application, (4) approximate time and length of the application and (5) name and telephone number of the school administrator or who may be contacted for further information. If the application is a part of a routine service the notice will also include a description of the pests encountered and the application method used during the previous service.

When possible, pesticide applications will be done during noninstructional time or during vacation periods.

Any pesticide application is prohibited when in the presence of children while they are in the room or on school grounds in or near the area to be treated.

If an emergency application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, no person may enter the area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.

In cases of an emergency application, prior notice is not required. Notice will be given to those persons who have previously requested notice of pesticide applications as soon as possible after such application.

A copy of the records of each pesticide application at a school shall be maintained for ninety (90) days. The records will contain the following information:

- A. date and time of the inspection and pesticide application;
- B. pests found during inspection;
- C. brand name and active ingredient of pesticide(s);
- D. EPA registration number of pesticide(s);
- E. areas treated;
- F. name of applicator;
- G. source for obtaining information on the pesticide label(s), material safety data sheet(s), and/or fact sheet(s) for end use concentrations.

The school principal, upon request, will make available the pesticide application information listed above for at least ninety (90) days from the date of application.

Potentially harmful substances shall be chosen for the low levels of toxicity. The least toxic formulations and safest methods of application will be selected when there is a choice of products with comparable effectiveness. Whenever practical, nonchemical controls shall be used.

Storage of harmful products will be kept to a minimum. Only enough of the product for a given application shall be purchased. All storage instructions will be followed explicitly. All such products and the application equipment will be stored away from other activities and especially separated from food products or occupied rooms. All storage facilities will be maintained as a locked area and clearly marked as containing pesticides.

All pesticide products will have complete label instructions, will remain in the original container and Material Safety Data Sheet will be on file and readily available to any employee who must handle such materials or who may have been exposed to the product. This information shall also be available to any member of the public upon request.

All applications of harmful products will be made in strict compliance with label instructions.

School Corporation employees responsible for handling and applying pesticides shall have specific pesticide training.

Training for school employees to become certified pest control applicators is available. The Corporation may provide for financial support of such training for employees designated by the Superintendent as needing such training. Such financial support will be subject to the availability of budgetary funds and the approval of the Board.

The Director of Buildings and Grounds shall be the contact person for providing information regarding pesticide application activities at the school site, including but not limited to giving oral and written notification, supervising the sending of notifications required by school policy and maintaining records of pesticide applications.

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