

## HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IN SCHOOLS

### **Pesticide Application**

The intent of this policy is to ensure that students, employees and parents/guardians receive adequate notice, in conformity with applicable statutes, prior to pesticide application in school buildings and on school grounds. Further, the District will only employ certified pesticide applicators for any non-emergency pesticide use in school buildings or on school grounds.

The application of lawn care pesticides on the grounds of schools with students in grade eight or lower must be according to an integrated pest management plan (IPM). Such application is prohibited starting July 1, 2009 except in emergencies. An emergency application may be made to eliminate a human health threat in any school with students through grade eight as determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

The District shall:

- Provide notice of planned pesticide application to students, parents/guardians and employees in the manner required by law.
- Post the areas scheduled to receive pesticide application(s).
- Maintain written records for five years of all pesticide applications.
- Provide continuing instruction to those students who, based upon written medical request, find it necessary to absent themselves during the period of application.
- Inform annually parents/guardians and staff of the District's pest application/management policy.
- Establish a registry of parents/guardians and staff who want to receive advance notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice as required by law.

Pest control applicators employed by the District shall provide the school contact person (*Supervisor of Maintenance, Head Custodian*) with notice at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date and time the pesticide application is to occur, including in such notice the brand name, concentration, rate of application, pesticide label, material safety data sheet, list of the area or areas where the pesticide is to be applied and any use restrictions required by the pesticide label. Prior to the application, the applicator shall provide the school contact person with a written pre-application notification containing the following information:

- The brand name, rate of application and any use restrictions required by the label of the herbicide or specific pesticide.
- The area or areas where the pesticide is to be applied.
- The date and time the application is to occur.
- The pesticide label and the material safety data sheet.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IN SCHOOLS (Continued...)

In the case of pesticide applications performed for or by public health agencies or emergency applications because of immediate threat to the public health, the licensed applicator shall give the school site office oral and, if possible, written notice, with posting of the area to be treated.

The Superintendent or his/her designee may require the pest control applicator to make the required postings in accordance with all applicable statutes and with District policy and regulations. The name and address of the applicator shall be a part of any posting.

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, as defined in C.G.S. 22a-47.

Pesticide purchases shall be limited to amounts authorized by the Superintendent or his/her designee for use during the year. Pesticides shall be stored in a secure site not accessible to students or unauthorized staff. They shall be stored and disposed of in accordance with EPA registered label directions and applicable state statutes.

### **Definitions**

**Pesticides** are defined as fungicides used on plants, insecticides, herbicides or rodenticides, but not sanitizers, disinfectants, antimicrobial agents or pesticide baits.

**Integrated pest management** is 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. Such plan is consistent with an applicable model plan provided by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection under section 22a-661.

**Lawn care pesticides** are pesticides registered by the EPA and labeled according to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act for lawn, garden and ornamental use.

The Superintendent shall prepare and disseminate regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference:       Connecticut General Statutes  
                               10-231b Pesticide applications at schools. Authorized applicators. Exception.  
                               10-231c Pesticide applications at schools without an integrated pest  
                               management plan  
                               22a-46. Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.  
                               22a-54. Pesticide applicators, certification, classification, notice, fees,  
                               reciprocity; financial responsibility; aircraft, tree, public employee  
                               applicators.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IN SCHOOLS (Continued...)

Legal Reference: (Continued...)

- 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.

Administrative Regulations to Policy #3524.1  
Hazardous Materials In Schools

**Pesticide Application**

In an attempt to assure proper control of any pesticides or other harmful chemicals which might be used or stored on District premises, these procedures are established. To fulfill statutory requirements, "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 a pesticide bait.

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

1. Only certified pesticide applicators shall be used in schools (vocational agriculture schools exempted) for any non-emergency pesticide use in school buildings or on school grounds.
2. An emergency application of pesticides is defined as 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 as defined in Connecticut General Statute 22a-47. Restricted use pesticides may be used only by certified applicators or under their direct supervision. (*Note: Restricted use pesticides, classified by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency or the DEP are those which may present a hazard to the applicator or other people by reason of acute dermal or inhalation toxicity or which may have an unreasonable adverse effect on the environment.*)
3. At the beginning of each school year, the Board of Education shall provide the staff of each school and the parents/guardians of each child enrolled in each school with a written statement of the Board's policy on pesticide applications and a description of any pesticide applications made at the school during the previous school year. Such statements and descriptions shall also be provided to the parents/guardians of any child who transfers to a school during the school year.
4. The aforementioned required statement shall indicate to staff, parents and guardians that they may register for prior notice of school pesticide applications. Further, the emergency notification procedures to be used will be described.
5. Parents/guardians and staff may register for prior notice of pesticide applications. Each school shall maintain a registry of persons requesting such notice. Prior to application of pesticides within any building or on school grounds, the parents/guardians who have registered for prior notice shall receive a mailing to be received no later than 24 hours prior to the application. Staff who have registered for such notice shall be notified by any means practicable.

Administrative Regulations to Policy #3524.1  
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**Pesticide Application** (continued...)

6. The aforementioned notice shall include the (1) name of the active ingredient of the pesticide to be applied; (2) the target pest, (3) location of the application; (4) date of application, (5) name of the school administrator or his/her designee who may be contacted for further information.
7. No application of pesticide may be made in any building or on school grounds during regular school hours or during planned activities at the school except for an emergency application.
8. If an emergency application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, such application shall not involve a restricted use pesticide and no child may enter the area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.
9. In cases of an emergency application prior notice is not necessary except that on or before the day the application is to take place, prior notice is given to those persons who have previously requested such notice.
10. A copy of the records of each pesticide application at a school shall be maintained for five years.
11. Potentially harmful substances such as insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides or other pesticides 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, non-chemical controls shall be used.
12. 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.
13. All pesticide products will have complete label instructions, will remain in the original container and the 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.

Administrative Regulations to Policy #3524.1  
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**Pesticide Application** (continued...)

14. All applications of harmful products will be made in strict compliance with label instructions and under no circumstances will the product concentrations exceed those specified in the application instructions.
15. Prior to application of any harmful substance, a written plan for that application will be filed in the District's business office and approved by the (*Director of Buildings and Grounds/Director of Finance and Operations/Supervisor of Maintenance*). (See attached form.)
16. The plan will contain the purpose of the application, product to be used, formulation of the product, location and extent of the area to be treated, type of equipment to be used, date and time of application, and amount of product to be used. Any warnings that would restrict use of the area following such application also will be part of the plan and will be appropriately posted to notify the public.
17. Treated school grounds will be posted as indicated in the following section.
18. District employees responsible for handling and applying pesticides shall have specific pesticide training. Only certified pesticide applicators may be used. Someone other than a certified pesticide applicator may apply a pesticide in an emergency to eliminate an immediate 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.
19. When the District contracts with a private, state-licensed pest control company, such contractors will be subject to regulations as defined in state statutes.

The Superintendent (*Director of Maintenance, Head Custodian, Principal*) 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 posting of notifications as required and maintaining records of pesticide-application notifications.

**Oral and Written Notice**

All oral and written notification shall contain the information indicated in Item #6 above. During the regular school session prior to pesticide application, notification shall be provided as indicated below.

Administrative Regulations to Policy #3524.1  
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**Oral and Written Notice** (continued...)

- Oral notification to all students and school employees shall be provided by means of the school public address system or assembly communications or staff meeting announcements or any similar means reasonably calculated to provide sufficient notice in advance of pesticide application. (Suggest minimum of 48 hours advance notice.)
- Parents and guardians and staff who have registered for advance notification of pesticide use shall be informed as listed in Item #5 above.

**Posting of Notice**

Not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to pesticide application, signs shall be posted to identify pesticide application areas. The signs shall display:

- The words "Warning Pesticides."
- The date and time of the planned application.
- Pesticide product to be used.
- Instructions on when areas may be used for recreational purposes.
- A telephone number for the school contact person and one for the licensed pesticide applicator.

The signs shall be posted at:

- The main entrance to all buildings where pesticide is to be applied.
- The playing fields where pesticide is to be applied.

The signs may be removed no less than forty-eight (48) hours after the pesticide is applied.

# PESTICIDE APPLICATION PLAN

Date of planned application: \_\_\_\_\_ Day of the Week: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(It is recommended for application to occur on a weekend or during a vacation period.)*

Which pesticide(s) will be used? (Attach MSDSA if available)  
*(Choose for safety and effectiveness)*

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What is the target pest? \_\_\_\_\_

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Location/size of area(s) to be treated/Type of equipment to be used/Amount of product to be used

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Who will do the pest control? (circle one)      Staff      Contractor

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

License number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Firm (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

For interior treatment:

Does the building have active ventilation that can be left on after the application? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, who is responsible for opening windows at least six (6) hours before staff and students reenter? \_\_\_\_\_

For all applications:

Who will post the building or treated grounds with (1) date of application; (2) pesticide used; and (3) when the area can be used again? \_\_\_\_\_

Will pesticides be stored on school grounds?    \_\_\_ YES    \_\_\_ NO

If "YES," where? \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Label Carefully! Keep all pesticides locked up and away from occupied areas.**

Approved by School/District Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School Nurse: \_\_\_\_\_ Informed \_\_\_\_\_

Other(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Informed \_\_\_\_\_