

IRSD INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

It is the policy of Indian River School District to manage pests in and around schools in a manner that protects human health, maintains the integrity of school buildings and grounds, and preserves the environment.

Indian River School District is committed to the sustainable management of pests through the use of sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) best practices that focuses on eliminating pest access to food, water and shelter in and around our schools. This is accomplished through the use of reduced risk pest control methods with a preference for non-chemical control measures. Sanitation, pest exclusion, and habitat modification are essential to successful long term pest mitigation. Buildings will be regularly cleaned and repaired in order to prevent pest infestations. All facilities and grounds will be maintained to be free of trash, debris, and clutter. Ornamental plants, turf, and desirable grasses will be managed in a manner that limits animal, plant, and microbial pest attraction.

Indian River School District will actively manage the pesticide safety and IPM program by establishing an IPM Coordinator position as assigned by IRSD Buildings & Grounds supervisor whose responsibilities include providing guidance, education, and support on program procedures and processes. Staff members employed by the Indian River School District will develop and maintain compliance records and provide oversight and implementation of the pesticide safety and IPM program.

Pesticide will be used when reasonable non-chemical approaches do not provide adequate control. Products that pose the least risk to people and the environment will be selected, and then only used when and where pests are present, or expected to be present, as determined by monitoring and action thresholds and approved by the district IPM coordinator. The use of pesticides with the signal words 'Warning' and 'Danger' should be avoided when possible. In documented emergency situations where the presence of a pest immediately threatens the health or safety of students, staff, faculty members or members of the public, the IPM coordinator may consider the use of pesticide products that do not fit the above criteria. Only certified pesticide applicators trained in Integrated Pest Management or district approved outside pest control companies will apply pesticides on Indian River School District properties.

Training of personnel is critical to the success of our pesticide safety and IPM program. Staff, students and the public will be educated about pest problems associated with school settings. Staff will be provided with contact information and MSDS (Material safety data sheet) will be kept on file.

Adopted 12/18/17

Revised 2/22/21