

PESTICIDE ALTERNATIVES AND NOTIFICATION

I. Policy

- A. The Waterville Central School District (the District), in accordance with Section 409-k of the NYS Education Law, prohibits the use of pesticides on playgrounds (including playground equipment), turf, athletic or playing fields, except as described in Part II of this policy.
- B. The Superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff member as the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator to implement notices required by policy, and maintain appropriate records.

II. Exceptions

- A. This prohibition of the use of pesticides does not apply to indoor use of pesticides or pesticide application to buildings and structures (e.g. school buildings, garages).
- B. Pesticides may be applied when the Board of Education (the Board) has determined that emergency conditions justify use.
- C. The following types of pesticides and alternatives are allowable on playing fields and playgrounds:
 - 1. Antimicrobial pesticides and products as defined in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act;
 - 2. Aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of eighteen (18) fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects, including venous spiders, bees, wasps and hornets;
 - 3. Non-volatile insect or rodent bait in tamper resistant containers;
 - 4. Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
 - 5. Pesticides classified as exempt material by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under 40 CFR part 152.25;
 - 6. Horticultural oils and soaps that do not contain synthetic pesticides or synergists.

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III. Pesticide Application

- A. Persons applying pesticides must be certified, licensed, trained and knowledgeable in the principals and practices of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Applications must follow state regulations.
- B. The use of pesticides must be approved by the IPM Coordinator and Superintendent.
- C. Whenever possible, the application of non-exempt pesticides will be conducted when the building will be unoccupied for a continuous 72-hour period following the application.
 - 1. If it is not possible to have the building remain unoccupied for a continuous 72-hour period then a secondary option may involve an application when the building will be unoccupied for a 48-72 hour period.
 - 2. If it is determined that extreme emergency conditions of pest infestation pose an immediate threat to the health and safety of students and staff an application may be authorized to be conducted when the building is unoccupied for less than 48-hours. The Superintendent will review an emergency condition recommendation, from the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, for authorization.

IV. Notification

- A. Initial Annual Notice - At the commencement of each school year and summer school session, the District will provide the following information to all staff and persons in parental relation:
 - 1. A statement that pesticide products may be used periodically throughout the school year or summer school session;
 - 2. A statement that the District is required to maintain a list of staff and persons in parental relation who wish to receive forty-eight (48) hour prior written notification of pesticide applications at relevant facilities, and instructions on how to register with the District to be on such a list for notification; and
 - 3. The name of the District representative and contact phone number to obtain further information.
- B. If a student enrolls after the beginning of the school year or summer school session, such written notification must be provided within one week of the student's enrollment.

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- C. Pesticide Application Summary Reports - The District will provide a written summary of pesticide applications to all staff and persons in parental relation within two (2) days of the end of winter and spring recess or summer school session, and within ten (10) days of the end of the school year of any pesticide applications that occurred during the time period since the previous notice was given.
1. Written summary reports will provide information for the period covered since the previous written summary report. Whenever possible summary reports will be part of existing communication with staff and parents. Additionally, notices will be placed in public places where staff and student notices are normally posted.
 2. Written summary reports will contain the following information:
 - a. the date and location of pesticide applications at the relevant facility,
 - b. the product name(s) and the EPA product registration number,
 - c. a reminder that the District is required to maintain a list of staff and persons in parental relation who wish to receive forty-eight (48) hour prior written notification of pesticide applications and instructions on how to register with the District to be on such a list for prior notification,
 - d. how to obtain further information about the products being applied, including any warnings that appear on the label of the pesticides that are pertinent to the protection of humans, animals or the environment, and
 - e. the name of the District's representative and the contact phone number to obtain further information about the application.
- D. 48-Hour Application Notice – During the course of the school year or summer session, the District will issue 48-hour advance notification of each non-exempt pesticide application to staff and persons in parental relation who have requested it and who are maintained on the list relevant to the facility unless the building will be unoccupied for a continuous 72-hour period. Written notification shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
1. the specific date and location of the application at the relevant facility (outdoor applications may include two alternative dates in case the application cannot be made due to weather conditions);
 2. the product name and EPA pesticide registration number;

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3. the name and phone number of the District representative to contact for additional information;
4. the following statement:

“This notice is to inform you of a pending pesticide application to a school facility. You may wish to discuss with the designated District representative what precautions are being taken to protect your child from exposure to these pesticides. For this information contact the District Risk Management Specialist. Further information about the product(s) being applied, including any warnings that appear on the label of the pesticide(s) that are pertinent to the protection of humans, animals, or the environment, can be obtained by contacting the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) at 1-800-858-7378 or email npic@ace.orst.edu or the New York State Department of Health Center for Environmental Health Information Line at 1-800-458-1158.”

E. Emergency Pesticide Application

Upon the Board approving emergency pesticide application, the person making the application will notify the commissioner of the department of health, using the form developed by the commissioner for that purpose.

Waterville Central School District
Legal Ref: NYS Education Law §§409-H and 409-K
Adopted: 05/22/01
Revised: 04/24/12, 05/26/15, 11/12/24