Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Pesticide Application in School Buildings

The intent of this policy is to ensure that students, employees and parents/guardians of the Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools receive adequate notice, in conformity with applicable statutes, prior to pesticide application in school buildings or on school grounds. Regional District #18 will only employ certified pesticide applicators for any non-emergency pesticide use in school buildings or on school grounds.

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. 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 application of lawn care pesticides on the grounds of schools with students grades eight and lower is prohibited except in emergencies. An emergency application may be made to eliminate a human health threat as determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

Regional School District 18 shall:

1. provide notice of planned pesticide application to students, employees and parent/guardians in the manner required by law;

2. post the areas scheduled to receive pesticide application(s);

3. maintain written records for five years of all pesticide applications;

4. provide continuing instruction to those students who, based upon written medical request, find it necessary to absent themselves during the period of application;

5. inform annually parents/guardians and staff of the District's pesticide application and management policy; and

6. establish a list of those parents, guardians and staff members who wish to receive advance notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice as required by law.

Pest control applicators employed by Regional District #18 shall provide the Director of Facilities/Maintenance with at least 72 hours notice prior to the date and time the pesticide application is to occur. Included in such notice shall be:

1. the brand name, rate of application and any use restrictions required by the label of the specific herbicide or pesticide;

2. the area or areas where the pesticide is to be applied;

3. the date and time the application is to occur;

4. the pesticide label and material safety data sheet.

In the case of pesticide applications performed for or by public health agencies or emergency applications because of immediate threat to public health, the licensed pesticide applicator shall give the oral and, if possible, written notice, to the Superintendent of Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools with posting of the area to be treated.

The Superintendent or his/her designee may require the pest control applicator to make required postings in accordance with both statutes and Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education policies. The name and address of the applicator shall be 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.

Pesticide purchases made by the Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools 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 which is not accessible to students or unauthorized staff. They shall be stored and disposed of in accordance with Federal Environmental Protection Agency registered label directions and applicable State statutes.

The Superintendent of Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools shall prepare and disseminate regulations for the implementation of this policy.

(cf. 3524 Hazardous Materials in Schools; General)

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes.

10-231b Pesticide Applications at Schools (P.A. 09-56)

22a-46 Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.

22a-54 Pesticide applicators, certification, classification, notice, fees, reciprocity; financial responsibility; aircraft, tree, public employee applicator.

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.

PA 99-165 An Act Concerning Notice of Pesticide Applications at Schools & Day Care Centers.

PA 05-252 An Act Concerning Pesticides at Day Care Centers.

Policy Adopted: August 2010