September 24, 2026

Dear Far Hills Parents and Guardians,

As part of our commitment to maintaining a safe, healthy, and nurturing learning environment for our students, Far Hills Country Day School follows an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) policy. In compliance with the New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act, this letter serves as our annual notification regarding our pest management practices, goals, and notification procedures.

Our IPM Philosophy & Policy Objectives

Integrated Pest Management is a sustainable approach to managing pests that combines sanitation, structural maintenance, physical barriers, and regular inspections. Our IPM program focuses on preventing pest problems before they occur.

Our Primary Objectives:

- **Minimize Health Risks:** Reduce student and staff exposure to both pests and potential chemical hazards.
- **Protect Our Campus:** Maintain our historic grounds, academic buildings, athletic fields, and outdoor learning spaces in an environmentally responsible manner.
- **Prioritize Non-Chemical Controls:** Utilize physical exclusion, proper sanitation, and habitat modification as our first lines of defense.

Chemical Applications & Safety Protocol

While non-chemical preventive measures are our primary focus, there may be rare instances where a pest problem requires a targeted chemical application.

- **Lowest-Impact Products:** If a chemical treatment becomes necessary, Far Hills uses the least toxic, lowest-impact product available to resolve the specific issue.
- **Application Timing:** Chemical treatments are scheduled when students and staff are not present on campus (such as weekends, evenings, or school breaks) to allow for complete drying and ventilation.
- **Emergency Applications:** In cases of an immediate health threat (such as an active stinging insect nest on a playground or athletic field), an emergency application may occur to ensure student safety.

Parent Notification Procedures

In the event that a non-exempt pesticide must be applied on school grounds, Far Hills Country Day School follows a strict notification process:

1. **72-Hour Advance Notice:** Parents and guardians will receive written notification (via email) at least 72 hours prior to any scheduled non-emergency pesticide application.
2. **Emergency Notification:** If an emergency application is required to address an immediate safety hazard, notification will be provided as soon as possible, no later than 24 hours (or the next business day) following the application.
3. **On-Site Signage:** Notices will be clearly posted at primary campus entrances and near the treatment area at least 72 hours in advance and will remain posted for 48 hours following the treatment.

Access to Records & IPM Plan

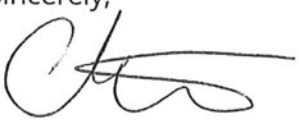
The school maintains a comprehensive IPM Plan along with a logbook of all pest control activities, inspection reports, and safety data sheets (SDS) for any products used on campus.

- **IPM Coordinator:** The Operations Department manages the IPM program in coordination with state-licensed pest management professionals.
- **Reviewing Records:** The IPM Plan and pesticide application records are available for review by parents and guardians during regular school hours upon request through the Operations Department.

If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding our IPM policy, please contact the Operations Office at **Operations@fhcds.org**.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping the Far Hills Country Day School community safe, healthy, and thriving.

Sincerely,



Carmen Santucci

IPM Coordinator

Far Hills Country Day School