

PEST MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOL FACILITIES AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

The School Committee recognizes that structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems for people and school unit property, but that use of some pesticides may raise concerns among parents, students and staff. It is therefore the policy of the Sanford School Department to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles and procedures for the control of structural and landscape pests. A copy of this policy shall be kept in every school and made available upon request to staff, parents, students and the public.

IPM is a systematic approach to pest management that combines a variety of methods for managing pests, including monitoring; improved horticultural, sanitation and food storage practices; pest exclusion and removal; biological control; and pesticides.

The Objective of the Sanford School Department's IPM program is to provide effective pest control while minimizing pesticide use. The goals of the IPM program include managing pests to reduce any potential hazards to human health; preventing loss or damage to school structures or property; preventing pests from spreading beyond the site of infestation to other school property; and enhancing the quality of life for students, staff and others.

The Superintendent and/or designee shall develop and implement a Pest Management Plan consistent with the following IPM principles and procedures:

A. Appointment of an IPM Coordinator

The Superintendent/designee will appoint an IPM Coordinator for the Sanford School Department. The IPM Coordinator will be the primary contact for pest control matters, and will act as the lead person in implementing the school department's IPM policy.

The IPM Coordinator will consult with the building principal and/or Superintendent before a decision is made to do a pesticide application for which notice is required and before providing notification of the planned application.

The IPM coordinator's responsibilities may include:

1. Recording and monitoring data and pest sightings by school staff and students required by rule;
2. Coordinating pest monitoring and pesticide applications.
3. Recording and ensuring that maintenance and sanitation recommendations are carried out where feasible;
4. Ensuring that any pesticide use is done according to Sanford School Department's Pest Management Plan and Chapter 27 Me. Dept. of Agriculture Board of Pesticides Control Rules ("Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public notification in Schools");

5. Making the school department's pest management policy available in every school building;
6. Having available for parents and staff a copy of the Maine regulation pertaining to pesticide applications in schools (Chapter 27 Me. Dept. of Agriculture Board of Pesticides Control "Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in Maine Schools") and a record of prior pesticide applications and information about the pesticides used.
7. Initiating and coordinating notification of parents and staff of pesticide applications as required by rule according to Sanford School Department's notification procedure and posting notification signs as appropriate; and
8. Recording all pesticides used by either a professional applicator or school staff and maintaining other pest control data.

B. Pesticide Applicators

Any person who applies pesticides in school buildings or on school grounds, including school personnel, must possess a Maine pesticide applicator's license and should be trained in the principles and practices of IPM. All pesticide use must be approved by the Sanford School Department IPM Coordinator. Applicators must follow state regulations and label precautions and must comply with the IPM policy and pest management plan.

C. Notification of Pesticide Application

When school is in session, the school department shall provide notification of each application not exempted by rule, whether inside a school building or on school grounds, to all school staff and parents/guardians of students. Such notices shall state, at a minimum:

- The trade name and EPA registration number of the pesticide to be applied;
- The approximate date and time of the application;
- The location of the application;
- The reasons for the application; and
- The name and phone number of persons to whom further inquiry regarding the application may be made.

Notices must be provided at least five days prior to the planned application. In addition, signage will be posted at each point of access to the treated area and in a common area of the school at least two working days prior to the application and for at least 48 hours following the application.

When school is not in session, signage will be posted at each point of access to the treated area and in a common area of the school at least two working days prior to the application and for at least 48 hours following the application.

In accordance with the Maine Board of Pesticides Rule Chapter 27, school is considered to be in session during the school year including weekends. School is not considered to be in session during any vacation of at least one week.

The IPM Coordinator for the Sanford School Department is Jason Dudley who may be contacted at 324-5722. This IPM policy and Board of Pesticides Control Rule Chapter 27, Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in Public Schools is available for inspection and copying at every school.

D. Recordkeeping

When a pesticide has been used, records pertinent to the application, including labels and material safety data sheets will be maintained at a designated central location for two years following application. Records are to be completed on the day the pesticide is applied. Pest surveillance records should be maintained to verify the need for pesticide treatments.

Legal Reference: 7 MRSA §§ 601-625
 22 MRSA §§ 1471-A-1471-X
 Ch. 27 Me. Dept. of Agriculture Board of Pesticides Control Rules
 (Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in
 Schools)

Cross Reference: EBAA- Chemical Hazards

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