

Series 1000 Community/Board Operation

PESTICIDE APPLICATION ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

A. Definitions:

1. **Pesticide:** means a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide or a rodenticide, but does not mean a sanitizer, disinfectant, antimicrobial agent or a pesticide bait.
2. **Lawn Care Pesticide:** means a pesticide registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and labeled pursuant to the federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act for use in lawn, garden and ornamental sites or areas.
3. **Integrated Pest Management:** means use of all available pest control techniques including judicious use of pesticides, when warranted, to maintain a pest population at or below an acceptable level, while decreasing the use of pesticides.
4. **Restricted Use Pesticide:** means any pesticide or pesticide use classified as restricted by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency or by the Connecticut Commissioner of Environmental Protection.

B. Integrated Pest Management Plan:

The district's integrated pest management plan shall be consistent with the model pest control management plan developed by the Connecticut Commissioner of Environmental Protection pursuant to Section 22a-66l of the Connecticut General Statutes.

C. Preparation and Posting of Notice

1. **Posting of Notice: Not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to pesticide application, signs shall be posted to identify pesticide application areas. The signs shall display:**
 - a) The words "Warning Pesticides."
 - b) The date and time of the planned application.
 - c) Pesticide product to be used.
 - d) Instructions on when areas may be used for recreational purposes.
 - e) A telephone number for the school contact person and one for the licensed pesticide applicator. The signs shall be placed at:
 - The main entrance to the building where pesticide is to be applied.
 - The area where pesticide is to be applied.
 - f) The signs may be removed no less than forty-eight (48) hours after the pesticide is applied.

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2. **Written Notice:** All written notification shall contain the information indicated in item # 3 below. During the regular school session prior to pesticide application, notification shall be provided as indicated below.
 - Parents and guardians and staff who have registered for advance notification of pesticide use shall be informed as listed in item Letter D below.
3. A posted notice shall include the (1) name of the active ingredient of the pesticide to be applied, (2) the target pest, (3) location of the application, (4) date of application, (5) the name of the school administrator or his/her designee who may be contacted for further information.
4. No application of pesticide may be made in the building or on school grounds during regular school hours or during planned activities at the school except for an emergency application.
5. If an emergency application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, such application shall not involve a restricted use pesticide and no child may enter the area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.
6. In cases of an emergency application, prior notice is not necessary except that on or before the day the application is to take place, prior notice is given to those persons who have previously requested such notice.
7. A copy of the records of each pesticide application at a school shall be maintained for five years.
8. Potentially harmful substances such as insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides or other pesticides shall be chosen for the low levels of toxicity. The least toxic formulations and safest methods of application will be selected when there is a choice of products with comparable effectiveness. Whenever practical, non-chemical controls shall be used.
9. Storage of harmful products will be kept to a minimum. Only enough of the product for a given application shall be purchased. All storage instructions will be followed explicitly. All such products and the application equipment will be stored away from other activities and especially separated from food products or occupied rooms. All

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storage facilities will be maintained as a locked area and clearly marked as containing pesticides.

10. All pesticide products will have complete label instructions, will remain in the original container and the Material Safety Data Sheet will be on file and readily available to any employee who must handle such materials or who may have been exposed to the product. This information shall also be available to any member of the public upon request.
 11. All applications of harmful products will be made in strict compliance with label instructions and under no circumstances will the product concentrations exceed those specified in the application instructions.
 12. Prior to application of any harmful substance, a written plan for that application will be filed in the main office and approved by the Superintendent.
 13. The plan will contain the purpose of the application, product to be used, formulation of the product, location and extent of the area to be treated, type of equipment to be used, date and time of application, and amount of the product to be used. Any warnings that would restrict use of the area following such application also will be part of the plan and will be appropriately posted to notify the public.
 14. Only certified pesticide applicators may be used. Someone other than a certified pesticide applicator may apply a pesticide in an emergency to eliminate an immediate health threat when
 - a) It is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator and
 - b) A restricted use pesticide is not used.
 15. When the district contracts with a private, state-licensed pest control company, such contractors will be subject to regulations as defined in state statutes.
 16. The Principal shall be the contact person for providing information regarding pesticide application activities at the school site, including but not limited to giving oral and written notification, supervising the posting of notifications as required and maintaining records of pesticide-application notifications.
- D. Notice of Pesticide Application to Parents/Guardians:
1. Parents or guardians of children in the school and/or staff members in the school may register for prior notice of pesticide application at their school.

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2. The school shall maintain a registry of persons requesting such notice.
 3. Parents or guardians of children in the school and/or staff members in the school who register for prior notice of pesticide application at the school shall be provided notice of each scheduled pesticide application at their school on or before the day that any application of pesticide is to take place.
 4. The notice shall include the following information:
 - a. The name of the active ingredient of the pesticide being applied,
 - b. The location of the application on school property,
 - c. The date of the application,
 - d. The name of the school administrator, or designee, who may be contacted for further information.
- E. Emergency Pesticide Application:
1. In the event of a threat to human health, the Superintendent may direct that an emergency application of a lawn care pesticide be made without prior notice to parents or guardians of children in the school and/or staff members.
 2. In the event of an immediate threat to human health, the Superintendent may direct that an emergency application of a pesticide be made, during regular school hours or during planned activities at school, without prior notice to parents or guardians of children in the school and/or staff members. Such application may only be made if (1) it is necessary to make the application during such period, and (2) such emergency application does not involve a restricted use pesticide.
 3. In the event of such emergency application, no child may enter the area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.
 4. In the event of such emergency application, the provision set forth below in Section F regarding authorized pesticide applicators shall not apply if the Superintendent determines that it is impractical to obtain the services of any such applicator, provided that the application does not involve a restricted use pesticide.

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F. Record of Pesticide Application:

1. A copy of the record of each pesticide application at the school shall be maintained at the school for a period of five (5) years, which record shall include the information required by Section 22a-66a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as it may be amended from time to time.

G. Authorized Pesticide Applicator:

1. No person, other than a pesticide applicator with supervisory certification under Section 22a-54 of the Connecticut General Statutes or a pesticide applicator with operational certification under Section 22a-54 under the direct supervision of a supervisory pesticide applicator, may apply pesticide within the building or on the grounds of the school.

H. Prohibition on Use of Lawn Care Pesticides at District Schools with Students through Grade 8:

There shall be no application of any lawn care pesticide on the grounds of any school with students in grade eight (8) or lower, except on an emergency basis, subject to applicable Connecticut statutory and regulatory provisions and the conditions set forth above.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

§10-231a
§10-231b
§10-231d
§19a-79a
§22a-47
§22a-54
§22a-66a
§22a-66l

United States Code:

Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, 7 U.S.C. § 136 et seq.