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## **PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY**

### **Pest Management Policy Statement**

Structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems for people and property. Pesticides can pose risks to people, property, and the environment. It is therefore the policy of the Oxford Academy and Central School District to incorporate integrated pest management (IPM) procedures for control of structural and landscape pests. The objective of this program is to provide necessary pest control while minimizing pesticide use.

### **Pest Management Plan**

The Oxford Academy and Central School District will manage pests to:

1. Reduce any potential human health hazard or threat to public safety.
2. Prevent loss or damage to school structures or property.
3. Prevent pests from spreading into the community, or to plant and animal populations beyond the site.
4. Enhance the quality of life for students, staff and others.

The IPM plan will address each of these goals. The IPM program will specifically address strategies for pest identification, preventive actions, establishment of tolerance threshold levels, monitoring, response actions, public notification, education, and recordkeeping.

### **IPM Coordinator**

An IPM coordinator will be appointed by the Board of Education. The coordinator will be responsible for implementing the IPM policy and drafting and implementing the IPM plan. The coordinator's responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Drafting an IPM plan.
2. Implementing the IPM plan.
3. Assuring notifications comply with applicable State laws and regulations, specifically Education Law § 409-h and this policy.
4. Recording all pesticide use in accordance with Education Law § 409-h and other applicable State laws and regulations.
5. Recording all pest sightings by staff, students and parents.

6. Meeting with pesticide applicators to share information on what pest problems are present in the school.
7. Assuring that all of the PCR's recommendations on maintenance and sanitation are carried out where feasible.
8. Assuring that any pesticide use is done when school is not in session or when the areas can be completely secured against access by school staff or students.
9. Maintaining the District's 48 hour notification list.
10. Evaluating the school's progress on the IPM plan.
11. Assuring that all individuals employing the use of pesticides are properly trained and certified in the use of such pesticide.
12. Any other duties required by State law or Regulation or the Board of Education pertaining to pest control or IPM policy.

### **Pesticide Applicators**

Pesticide applications may only be performed by individuals currently certified by the New York State DEC as pesticide applicators or by a certified pesticide technician or an apprentice working under the direct on-site supervision of a certified applicator pursuant to DEC Regulation Part 325.7. Further, pesticide applicators must be over the age of 21 years old as recommended by the DEC.

### **Selection of Pesticides**

The IPM plan shall include the use of mechanical, biological and physical treatments for pest control to be implemented prior to the use of specific toxic pesticides. When pesticide use is necessary, the Board of Education, Superintendent, or IPM coordinator must approve the pesticide for school use. The school's preferred pesticide for use would be pesticide baits and pesticide sprays with the single word CAUTION as a warning.

### **Notification**

The school shall provide written notification to all staff and persons in parental relation at the beginning of each school year. Such notices shall contain the following information:

- a. A statement that pesticide products may be used periodically throughout the school year.
- b. A statement that schools are required to maintain a list of staff and persons in parental relationship who wish to receive 48 hours prior written notification of pesticide applications at

relevant facilities, and instructions on how to register with the school to be on such list for notification; the name of the school representative and contact number to obtain further information.

c. If a child enrolls after the beginning of the school year, such notification shall be provided to that child within one week of enrollment.

d. The school shall also provide notification within ten days of the end of the school year and within two school days of the end of winter recess and spring recess and within two days of the end of summer school. Such notification shall provide written notice to all staff and persons in parental relationship listing the date, location and product used for each application which required prior notification and each emergency application made at relevant facilities during the period of time since the previous notice. Such notification shall also include a statement that schools are required to maintain a list of staff and persons in parental relationship who wish to receive 48 hours prior written notification of pesticide applications and instructions on how to register with the school to be on such list for prior notification and how to obtain further information about the products being applied including warnings that appear on the labels of pesticides that are pertinent to the protection of humans, animals or the environment and the name of a school representative or contact number for additional information.

e. All individuals requesting written notification 48 hours in advance of pesticide application shall be given such notice within a minimum of 48 hours prior to any such pesticide application. Such notification shall include the following information:

The specific date and location of the application at the facility. If the application is an outdoor application, the notice will provide two alternative dates for application in case weather prohibits application on the first date of application. Further, such notice shall provide the product name and pesticide registration number assigned by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The following statement shall also be contained within the 48 hour notice:

This notice is to inform you of a pending pesticide application to a school facility. You may wish to discuss with the designated school representative what precautions are being taken to protect your child from exposure to these pesticides. 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 calling the National Pesticide Telecommunications Communications Network information phone number 1-800-858-7378 or the New York State Department of Health Center for Environmental Health Info Line at 1-800-458-1158.

Finally, this notice shall contain the name of the school representative and contact number for additional information.

### **Emergency Applications**

In the case of an emergency application of a pesticide to protect against imminent threat to human health, IPM coordinator shall make a good faith effort to supply written notice required pursuant to this section. Further, upon making such emergency application, the IPM coordinator shall notify the Commissioner of the Department of Health on the appropriate form of the pesticide applied and the reason for such application.

**Education**

Staff, students, pest managers, parents, and the public will be informed about potential school pest problems, the IPM policies, procedures and their respective roles in achieving the desired pest management objectives.

The Board of Education shall review the IPM plan and pest control policy on an annual basis to ensure compliance with § 409-h of the Education Law.

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