

OXFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Annual Integrated Pest Management Notice For School Year 2009 - 2010

This notice is being distributed to comply with the New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act. The Oxford Township School District has adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy and has implemented an IPM Plan to comply with this law. IPM is a holistic, preventative approach to managing pests that is further explained in the school's IPM Policy included with this notice.

All schools in New Jersey are required to have an Integrated Pest Management Coordinator (IPM Coordinator) to over see all activities related to IPM and pesticide use at the school.

The IPM Coordinator for Oxford Central School is:

Ms. Patricia Decibus, Business Administrator
17 Kent Street, Oxford, NJ 07863
(908) 453-4101, ext. 2105

The IPM Coordinator maintains the pesticide product label and the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), when one is available, of each pesticide product that may be used on school property. The label and the MSDS are available for review by a parent, guardian, staff member, or student attending school. Also, the IPM Coordinator is available to parents, guardians and staff members for information and to discuss comments about IPM activities and pesticide use at the school.

As part of a school pest management plan, Oxford Township School District may use pesticides to control pests. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) register pesticides to determine that the use of a pesticide in accordance with instructions printed on the label does not pose an unreasonable risk to human health and the environment. Nevertheless, the EPA and the DEP cannot guarantee that registered pesticides do not pose any risk to human health, thus unnecessary exposure to pesticides should be avoided. The EPA has issued the statement that where possible, persons who are potentially sensitive, such as pregnant women, infants and children, should avoid unnecessary pesticide exposure.

On the reverse side of this notice you will find a copy of the District IPM policy.

Integrated Pest Management

The New Jersey Integrated Pest Management Act of 2002 requires schools to implement a school integrated pest management program. The law requires the superintendent of the school district, the board of education, and school principal to implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures to control pests and minimize exposure of children, faculty and staff to pesticides. Oxford Township School District shall therefore develop and maintain an IPM Plan as part of the school's policy.

Integrated Pest Management Procedures in Schools

Implementation of IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, cultural, biological or chemical methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

Each school shall consider the full range of management options, including no action at all. Non-pesticide pest management methods are to be used whenever possible. The choice of using a pesticide shall be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not effective or not reasonable. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used, low impact pesticides and methods are preferred and shall be considered for use first.

Development of IPM Plans

The school IPM plan is a blueprint of how the Oxford Township School District will manage pests through IPM methods. The school IPM plan states that the school's goals regarding the management of pests and the use of pesticides. It reflects the school's site-specific needs. The IPM plan shall provide a description of how each component of the school IPM policy will be implemented at the school. The Board of education in collaboration with the Chief School Administrator shall be responsible for the IPM plan for the school.

IPM Coordinator

The Chief School Administrator shall designate an integrated pest management coordinator who is responsible for the implementation of the School integrated pest management policy.

Education/Training

The school community will be educated about potential pest problems and IPM methods used to achieve the pest management objectives. The IPM coordinator, other school staff and pesticide applicators involved in the implementation of the school IPM policy will be trained in appropriate components of IPM as it pertains to the school environment. Students and parents/guardians will be provided information on this policy and instructed on how they can contribute to the success of the IPM program.

Record Keeping

Records of pesticide use shall be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency and the board. Records shall also include, but are not limited to, pest surveillance data sheets and other non-pesticide pest management methods and practices utilized.

Notification/Posting

The Chief School Administrator of the district is responsible for timely notification to students' parents/guardians and the school staff of pesticide treatments pursuant to the School IPM Act.

Re-entry

Re-entry into a pesticide treated area shall conform to the requirements of the School IPM Act.

Pesticide Applicators

The IPM coordinator shall ensure that the applicators follow state regulations, including licensing requirements and label precautions, and must comply with all components of the School IPM Act.

Evaluation

Annually, the Chief School Administrator will report to the Board of Education on the effectiveness of the IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed. The Board of Education directs the Chief School Administrator to develop regulations/procedures for the implementation of this policy.

Possible References:

The School Integrated Pest Management Act of 2002
N.J.A.C. Title 7; Chapter 30; Subchapters 1-12
Pesticide Control Act of 1971