

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Hazardous Materials in Schools

Pesticide Management/Pesticide Application

The Orange Board of Education believes that structural and landscape pests can pose significant hazards to people, property and the environment. Pests are living organisms such as plants, animals or microorganisms that interfere with human uses for the school site. Strategies for managing pest populations will be influenced by the pest species and the degree to which that population poses a threat to people, property or the environment. Further, the Board also believes that pesticides can also pose hazards to people, property and the environment. The intent of this policy is to ensure the health and safety of students, teachers, staff and all others using district buildings and grounds.

The goal of this pest management program is to manage pests in order to:

- Reduce any potential human health hazard and/or to protect against a significant threat to public safety;
- Prevent loss or damage to school structures or property;
- Prevent pests from spreading in the community or to plant and animal populations beyond the site;
- Enhance the quality of life and to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students, staff and others.

The Orange school district shall incorporate Integrated Pest Management procedures (IPM) to manage structural and landscape pests and the toxic chemicals for their control in order to alleviate pest problems with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment. In addition, staff, students and the public shall be educated, at least annually, about potential school pest problems and the IPM policies and procedures to be used to achieve the desired pest management objectives. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the coordinated use of pest and environmental information with available pest control methods to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means with the least possible hazard.

IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural or biological means. Chemical controls shall be used as a last resort. The Orange Board establishes that the school district shall use pesticides only after consideration of the full range of alternatives, including no action, based upon an analysis of environmental effects, safety, effectiveness and costs. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible to implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures and to coordinate

communications with members of the staff who are responsible for pest control, such as maintenance personnel and custodians, and hired contractors when utilized by the district to control a pest problem. The Director of Facilities shall be designated as the IPM supervisor and shall direct and supervise all IPM procedures to be carried out by assigned maintenance and/or custodial staff.

All Orange district employees who use chemicals to control a pest problem must be trained and shall follow all precautions and application regulations. The Orange District will only employ certified pesticide applicators for any necessary and non-emergency pesticide use in school building or on school grounds. Contractors hired to do this work shall give evidence of appropriate training and certification in the proper use of pesticides. Pest control contractors shall be utilized, when deemed necessary, to inspect for conditions conducive to pest problems and to develop appropriate prevention measures. Pest control contractors will be expected to write recommendations for structural improvements or repairs and housekeeping and sanitation measures required to reduce or prevent recurrence of pest problems.

Someone other than a certified pesticide applicator may apply a pesticide in an emergency to eliminate an immediate human health threat when (1) it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator and (2) a restricted use pesticide is not used.

Whenever it is deemed necessary to use a chemical substance, the involved school must provide notification to all parents and staff who have registered for advanced notification in conformity with state statutes. Parents/guardians and staff requesting advanced notification must be notified on the day of such use by any method practicable. Notices shall also be posted in designated areas at school at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the application.

At the beginning of each school year and at the time a student is registered, parents/guardians shall be informed of the Orange District's pest management policy. Those parents/guardians and staff who register a request shall be notified prior to every pesticide application.

Information regarding pesticides used and areas treated shall be maintained for a period of five years at the school site and available to the public and staff upon request. The district shall establish and maintain accurate records of all chemical use and their location. In addition, records of all pest control actions including information on indicators of pest activity that can verify the need for action.

Pesticide applications shall be limited to non-school hours and when activities are not taking place.

The application of lawn care pesticides on the grounds of any schools with students in grade eight or lower must be according to an integrated pest management plan (IPM). Such application is prohibited starting July 1, 2010 except in emergencies. An emergency application may be made to eliminate a human health threat in any school with students through grade eight as determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-231b](#) Pesticide applications at schools. Authorized applicators. Exception, as amended by P.A. 09-56

[10-231c](#) Pesticide applications at schools without an integrated pest management plan

[22a-46](#). Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.

[22a-54](#). Pesticide applicators, certification, classification, notice, fees, reciprocity; financial responsibility; aircraft, tree, public employee applicators.

[22a-58](#). Records to be kept by distributors and applicators.

[23-61b](#). Licensing for arboriculture; examination; fees; renewal; suspension, revocation. Nonresidents. Records. Pesticides.

P.A. 09-56 An Act Concerning Pesticide Applications at Child Day Care Centers and Schools

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) 7 U.S. Code 136 et seq.

Policy adopted: May 13, 2013

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Pesticide Application

In an attempt to assure proper control of any pesticides or other harmful chemicals which might be used or stored on district premises, these procedures are established. To fulfill statutory requirements, “pesticide” is defined as 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.

The intent is to prevent unnecessary exposure of staff, students or the public to potentially harmful substances.

1. Only certified pesticide applicators shall be used in schools (vocational agricultural schools exempted) for any non-emergency pesticide use in school buildings or on school grounds.
2. An emergency application of pesticides is defined as when an application of pesticides is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health and where it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator provided such emergency application does not involve a restricted use pesticide as defined in CGS [22a-47](#). Restricted use pesticides may be used only by certified applicators or under their direct supervision.
3. At the beginning of each school year, the Orange Board of Education shall provide the staff of each school and the parents/guardians of each child enrolled in each school with a written statement of the Orange Board's policy on pesticide applications and a description of any pesticide applications made at the school during the previous school year. Such statements and descriptions shall also be provided to the parents/guardians of any child who transfers to a school during the school year.
4. The aforementioned required statement shall indicate to staff, parents and guardians that they may register for prior notice of school pesticide applications. Further, the emergency notification procedures to be used will be described.
5. Parents/guardians and staff may register for prior notice of pesticide applications. Each school shall maintain a registry of persons requesting such notice. Prior to the application of pesticides within any building or on school grounds, the parents/guardians who have registered for prior notice shall receive a mailing to be received no later than 24 hours prior to the application. Staff who have registered for such notice shall be notified by any means practicable.

6. The aforementioned 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.
7. No application of pesticide may be made in any building or on school grounds during regular school hours or during planned activities at the school except for an emergency application.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. A copy of the records of each pesticide application at a school shall be maintained for five years.
11. 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.
12. 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 storage facilities will be maintained as a locked area and clearly marked as containing pesticides.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. Prior to application of any harmful substance, a written plan for that application will be filed in the district's business office and approved by the *Director of Buildings and Grounds/ Business Manager/Supervisor of Maintenance*.

16. 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.

17. Treated school grounds will be posted as indicated in the following section.

18. District employees responsible for handling and applying pesticides shall have specific pesticide training. 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 (1) it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator and (2) a restricted use pesticide is not used.

19. When the district contracts with a private, state-licensed pest control company, such contractors will be subject to regulations as defined in state statutes.

The Orange Public School's Director of Facilities 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.

All oral and written notification shall contain the information indicated in item # 6 above. During the regular school session prior to pesticide application, notification shall be provided as indicated below.

- Oral notification to all students and school employees shall be provided by means of the school public address system or assembly communications or staff meeting announcements or any similar means reasonably calculated to provide sufficient notice in advance of pesticide application. (suggest minimum 48 hours advance notice)
- Parents and guardians and staff who have registered for advance notification of pesticide use shall be informed as listed in item # 5 above.

Posting of Notice

Not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to pesticide application, signs shall be posted to identify pesticide application areas. The signs shall display:

- The words "Warning Pesticides."
- The date and time of the planned application.
- Pesticide product to be used.
- Instructions on when areas may be used for recreational purposes.

- 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 all buildings where pesticide is to be applied.
- The playing fields where pesticide is to be applied.

The signs may be removed no less than forty-eight (48) hours after the pesticide is applied.

Regulation approved: May 13, 2013