

Non-Instructional Operations

Pest Management

The Ledyard 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, which 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 Director of Maintenance shall develop and implement an integrated pest management (IPM) plan 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. The IPM plan shall be consistent with the model plan provided by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection under section 22a-66l of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS).

The IPM plan 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 Board establishes that the District shall use pesticides only after consideration of the full range of alternatives, including taking no action, based upon an analysis of environmental effects, safety, effectiveness and costs.

Definitions

“Integrated pest management” means the 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 overall use of pesticides.

“Pesticide” means a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide or rodenticide but does not mean a sanitizer, disinfectant, anti-microbial agent or a pesticide bait.

A **“certified pesticide applicator”** is a person who has obtained either (1) supervisory certification under CGS section 22a-54 or (2) operational certification under CGS section 22a-54 and is working under the direct supervision of a supervisory pesticide applicator.

“Lawn care pesticide” means a pesticide registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and labeled pursuant to the federal *Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act* for use in lawn, garden and ornamental sites or areas.

“Restricted use pesticides,” as classified by the EPA or the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), are those pesticides which may present a hazard to the applicator or other people by reason of acute dermal or inhalation toxicity or which may have an unreasonable adverse effect on the environment. Restricted use pesticides shall only be applied by a certified pesticide applicator.

Notification of IPM Plan

The Superintendent shall ensure that:

- At the beginning of each school year, the staff of each school are provided with written guidelines on how the IPM plan is to be implemented, and
- At the beginning of each school year, and when any child transfers to a school

during the school year, parents/guardians are provided with a statement that shall include a summary of the District's IPM plan for the school.

The staff and parent/guardian notifications shall (1) indicate that they may register for prior notice of pesticide applications to be made at the school and (2) describe the procedures for notification in the event an emergency application of a pesticide is required.

A notice of any modifications to the IPM plan shall be sent to any person who has registered for prior notice of pesticide application.

Notification of Pesticide Application

Notices of planned pesticide applications shall be posted in designated areas at the affected school at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the application.

The building Principal, or his/her designee, shall ensure that all notifications regarding pesticide application are provided, by any means practicable, to those persons who have registered for prior notice of pesticide application on or before the day that any application of pesticide is to take place at a school.

Notifications of pesticide applications shall include (1) the name of the active ingredient of the pesticide being applied, (2) the location of the application on the school property, (3) the date of the application, and (4) the name of the school administrator, or a designee, who may be contacted for further information.

Records of Pesticide Application

A copy of the record of each pesticide application at a school shall be maintained at the school for a period of five years. Such records shall include the information required under CGS section 22a-66a (i.e., a copy of that portion of the pesticide label which states the product name and registration number, the manufacturer, the active ingredients, the signal word, an emergency phone number, if listed, and any precautionary statements, including statements on environmental hazards, human and animal hazards, emergency treatment and reentry).

Limitations on Pesticide Use

All pesticide use on school grounds or in school building shall be in accordance with the District's IPM plan.

Pesticides shall normally only be applied on school grounds or within any school building by a certified pesticide applicator.

Staff and students may use pesticides, with the exception of restricted use pesticides, at Ledyard High School as part of the approved Agri-Science program. However, such use shall be limited to the minimum necessary to accomplish curricular objectives. Agri-Science staff members shall ensure that students are informed of and observe all safety precautions regarding the handling, use and storage of pesticides.

Appropriately trained staff members may apply pesticides in an emergency situation to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee, and where it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator, provided such situation does not involve a restricted use pesticide.

Starting July 1, 2009, lawn care pesticides shall only be used on the playing fields and playgrounds of District elementary schools and Ledyard Middle School in an emergency situation to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

No application of pesticide may be made in any building or on the grounds of any school during regular school hours or during planned activities at any school except that an emergency application may be made to eliminate an immediate threat to human health if (1) it is necessary to make the application during such a period and (2) such emergency application does not involve a restricted use pesticide. In such cases, staff and students shall be prohibited from entering an area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.

Responsibilities

Each building Principal shall:

- Ensure that a registry is maintained of all staff members and parents/guardians who have requested prior notice of pesticide applications at the school.
- Ensure that sanitary measures are enforced and that the school building is regularly cleaned and maintained in good repair in order to prevent pest infestations and minimize the need for the use of pesticides.
- Ensure that all notifications regarding pesticide applications at the school are provided as required.

The Director of Maintenance shall:

- Develop and implement an IPM plan that is consistent with the model plan provided by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection under section 22a-661 of the CGS.
- Ensure that all District employees who use chemicals to control a pest problem, including Agri-Science staff, are trained on the requirements of this policy and the IPM plan and are instructed on the necessity to observe and follow all precautions and application procedures listed on the pesticide label.
- Ensure that pesticides are stored in a secure site not accessible to students or unauthorized staff and that such storage, and any pesticide disposal, is in accordance with the directions on the pesticide container's label.
- Notify the Superintendent and building Principal of planned pesticide applications.
- Direct and supervise all IPM procedures to be carried out by District employees and/or pest control contractors.
- Maintain a copy of the record of each pesticide application made at all District schools.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

10-231a. Pesticide applications at schools: Definitions.

10-231b. Pesticide applications at schools: Authorized applicators.
Exception.

(as revised by PA 07-168)

10-231d. Pesticide applications at schools with an integrated pest management plan.

22a-46. Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.

22a-47. Definitions.

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.

22a-66a. Notification of the application of pesticides. Registry. Regulations. Penalty.

23-61b. Licensing for arboriculture; examination; fees; renewal; suspension, revocation.

Nonresidents. Records. Pesticides. Title 7, USC, Section 136 et seq. - *Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)*

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LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ledyard, Connecticut