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Integrated Pest Management

Definition

Integrated pest management means a strategy that focuses on long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems through a combination of techniques such as monitoring for pest presence and establishing treatment threshold levels, using nonchemical practices to make the habitat less conducive to pest development, improving sanitation, and employing mechanical and physical controls. *The Oak Park Unified School District has a Pesticide Free Policy that does not allow for the use of toxic pesticides unless an EMERGENCY situation exists. The District strives to never use toxic pesticides, herbicides or rodenticides, and authorizes their use only in the rare event of a grave threat to the health and safety of the school community when effective alternatives are not available. Pesticides that pose-the least possible hazard and are effective in a manner that minimizes risks to people, animals, property, and the environment are used only after careful monitoring indicates they are needed according to pre-established guidelines and treatment thresholds. (Food and Agricultural Code 13181)*

Procedures

The Superintendent or designee shall designate an employee at the district office and/or school site to develop, implement, and coordinate an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program that does not allow for the use of toxic pesticides, herbicides or redentocides, unless in case of emergency. In the rare event of a grave threat to the health and safety of the school community where no other effective alternative to the use of pesticide may be used, the Superintendent will be notified prior to any application of pesticides. The district's program shall include the following elements:

- 1. Carefully monitoring and identifying the pest population levels and identifying practices that could affect pest populations. Strategies for managing the pest shall be influenced by the pest species and whether that species poses a threat to people, animal, property or the environment.
- 2. Setting action threshold levels to determine when pest populations or vegetation at a specific location might cause unacceptable health or economic hazard that would indicate corrective action should be taken.
 - 3. Modifying or eliminating pest habitats to deter pest populations and minimize pest infestations.
- 4. Considering a full range of possible alternative treatments. Such alternative treatments may include taking no action or controlling the pest by physical, horticultural, or biological means. Cost or staffing considerations alone will not be adequate justification for use of chemical control agents.
- 5. Selecting nonchemical pest management methods over chemical methods, whenever such methods are effective in providing the desired control or, when it is determined that chemical methods must be used, giving preference to those chemicals that pose the least hazard to people, animal, property or the environment.

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6. Ensuring that persons applying District approved pesticides follow label precautions and are sufficiently trained in the principles and practices of IPM and have a pesticide applicator's licence.

(cf. 4231 – Staff Development)

7. Limiting pesticide purchases to amounts needed for the year. Pesticides shall be stored at a secure location that is not accessible to students and unauthorized staff. They shall be stored and disposed of in accordance with state regulations and label directions registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as well as any disposal requirements indicated on the product label

(cf. 3514.1 - Hazardous Substances)

Prohibited Pesticides

The IPM Coordinator shall not use a pesticide on a school site if that pesticide has been granted a conditional or interim registration or an experimental use permit by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) or if the pesticide is subject to an experimental registration issued by the EPA and either of the following conditions exists: (Education Code 17610.1)

- 1. The pesticide contains a new active ingredient.
- 2. The pesticide is for new use.

In addition, the IPM Coordinator shall not use a pesticide on a school site if DPR cancels or suspends registration or requires that the pesticide be phased out from use. (Education Code 17610.1)

Notification

The IPM Coordinator shall annually notify staff and parents/guardians of students enrolled at a school site, in writing, regarding pesticide products expected to be applied at the school facility in the upcoming year. The notification shall include at least the following: (Education Code 17612)

- 1. The Internet address used to access information on pesticides and pesticide use reduction developed by the DPR pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code 13184.
- 2. The name of each toxic pesticide product expected to be applied in the upcoming year and the active ingredient(s) in it.
- 3. An opportunity for interested persons to register to receive notification of individual pesticide

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application at the school site. The IPM Coordinator shall notify such registered persons of individual pesticide applications at least 72 hours prior to the application. The notice shall include the product name, the active ingredient(s) in the product, and the intended date of application.

4. Other information deemed necessary by the Superintendent or IPM coordinator.

(cf. 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures) (cf. 3517 – Facilities Inspection) (cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications) (cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

If a pesticide product not included in the annual notification is subsequently intended for use at a school site, the IPM Coordinator shall provide written notification of its intended use to staff and parents/guardians of students enrolled at the school, at least 72 hours prior to the application. (Education Code 17612)

Whenever the IPM Coordinator deems that the immediate use of a pesticide is necessary to protect the health and safety of students, staff, or other persons at the school site, he/she shall make every effort to provide the required notifications prior to the application of the pesticide. (Education Code 17612)

Posting of Warning Signs

The IPM Coordinator shall post a warning sign at each area of the school site where pesticides will be applied that shall be visible to all persons entering the treated area. The sign shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the application and until 72 hours after the application. The warning sign shall display the following information: (Education Code 17612)

- 1. The term "Warning/Pesticide Treated Area"
- 2. The product name, manufacturer's name, and the EPA's product registration number
- 3. Intended areas and dates of application
- 4. Reason for the pesticide application

When advance posting is not possible due to an emergency condition requiring immediate use of a pesticide, the warning sign shall be posted immediately upon application and shall remain posted until 72 hours after the application. (Education Code 17609, 17612)

Records

Each school site shall maintain records of all pesticide use at the school for four years, and shall make the information available to the public, upon request, in accordance with the California Public Records Act. Such records may be maintained by retaining a copy of the warning sign posted for each

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pesticide application with a recording on that copy of the amount of the pesticide used. (Education Code 17611)

(cf. 1340 – Access to District Records) (cf. 3580 - District Records)

The following procedures/strategies shall be employed:

Problem	Strategy
Weed Control	Mulch with hand pulling of weed
Ants	Elimination of food sources /Boric acid
Gophers	Trap and release elsewhere
Roaches/mice	Installation of bottom door sweeps/elimination of food source
Bees	Trap and remove with beekeeper
Snake	Call a professional snake catcher
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The school district has assigned the Director of Maintenance, Operations, to carry out the requirements of the Healthy Schools Act, as the designated IPM coordinator for the district. Parents and staff receive annual written notification of the district's pesticide free policy and the following directions: Information regarding pesticides may be obtained at the California Department of Pesticide Regulation or you may call the National Pesticide Telecommunications Network at 1-800-858-7378. This toll-free service is funded by EPA and operated by the Oregon State University. The service is available from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST Monday through Friday.

Other useful links provided by the Department of Pesticide Regulation:

- County of Santa Barbara IPM website
- California Department of Pesticide Regulation
- U.S. EPA Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools
- University of California Statewide IPM Program
- Rodent-Proof Construction and Exclusion Methods, Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management
- University of Wisconsin's IPM Website

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17366 Legislative intent (fitness of buildings for occupancy)

17608-17613 Healthy Schools Act of 2000

48980 Notice at the beginning of term

48980.3 Notification of pesticides

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CODE

11401-12408 Pest control operations and agricultural chemicals

13180-13188 Healthy Schools Act of 2000

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of representation; right to negotiate safety conditions

6250-62770 California Public Records Act

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

340-340.2 Employer's obligation to provide safety information

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 7

136-136y Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodentcide Act

Management Resources:

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Pest Control in the School Environment: Adopting Integrated Pest Management, 1993

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov

California Department of Pesticide Regulation, School IPM: http://schoolipm.info

U.S. Environmental Protective Agency, Integrated Pest Management at Schools: http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm

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