

Ann Arbor Public Schools
Pesticide Policy
Adopted December 15, 1989

1. Purpose

Management of buildings and grounds is designed to minimize the need for pest control. The use of pesticides will be minimized. If pesticide use becomes necessary, parents and staff receive notification beforehand.

2. Use of Pesticides

Synthetic chemical pesticides are only used if there is an "impending loss of the esthetic, structural or functional integrity of an important district resource which cannot be managed without the use of pesticides."

3. Pest Management

The Buildings and Grounds Department develops a written plan for management of grounds and buildings which is designed to minimize the need for pesticide use. The plan includes periodic inspection to determine extent of pest problem. Threshold levels are determined. Preventative action - such as mechanical exclusion, sanitation, proper watering, fertilizing, pruning, etc. - is included in all management plans. When "pest control" measures are necessary, the "least toxic" measure is selected. Pesticides are not applied in areas where individuals are, or will be present, for 12 hours.

4. Notification

Signs are posted at the time of application of pesticides. Signs will be at least 10x14 inches. Letters are sent to parents and staff at least two days prior to application in the event of pesticide use.

Implementation of the Pesticide Policy

Cockroaches

Before 1990, the Ann Arbor Public Schools sprayed kitchens monthly and locker rooms twice a year, primarily using Dursban. Today, the cafeteria kitchens are monitored with non-toxic sticky traps in order to anticipate any increase in populations. Increases have led to structural modifications, such as caulking openings and crevices, removing access to food and water, and to occasionally apply boric acid in area where roaches have been trapped.

Headlice

Before 1990, the carpet in any classroom where a student had headlice was sprayed with a pesticide. Today, the carpets are cleaned and vacuumed; no pesticide is used. The Center for Disease Control advises that carpet spraying is ineffective.

Wasps

Before 1990, nests were sprayed with d'Con Raid. Today, nests are sprayed with detergent. Other measures may be needed.

Ants

Before 1990, the Schools sprayed ants about 20 times per year with Black Flag Ant and Roach Killer (Baygon and DDVP). Today, populations are occasionally reduced by the use of bait traps.

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS' HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES POLICY

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I. Purpose

Management of buildings and grounds will minimize the need for pest control. This includes maintenance of healthy plants, proper watering, fertilizing, pruning, and mowing practices to minimize stress and to reduce susceptibility to insects, disease, and weeds. *Biological control measures will be used whenever appropriate and effective!*

THE USE OF HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS AND IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS WILL BE MINIMIZED BY MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES, AND BY ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM).

INDIVIDUALS USING SCHOOL FACILITIES WILL BE PROTECTED FROM UNNECESSARY EXPOSURE TO HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES. IF THEIR USE BECOMES NECESSARY, PARENTS AND STAFF WILL BE NOTIFIED.

II. Definitions

Pesticide AN HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE is a substance or a mixture of substances used INTENDED to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate pests or used as a plant growth regulator. This includes insecticides used against insects, herbicides used against weedy or other plants, fungicides used against fungi, and antibiotics or bactericides used against bacteria.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM): REGULAR MONITORING OF PEST LEVELS; PRESCRIBING CONTROL MEASURES ONLY WHEN PEST LEVELS REACH A THRESHOLD WHICH DAMAGES OR THREATENS HUMAN HEALTH OR THE PLANT'S LONG-TERM HEALTH. WHEN CONTROL MEASURES ARE NECESSARY, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL METHODS WILL BE CHOSEN OVER THE USE OF CHEMICAL HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES WHENEVER APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE.

III. Organizational Units Affected

All

IV. Instructions

A. Pest controls may be implemented under the following circumstances:

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2. Pests are causing significant esthetic damage to a tree, shrub, plant, or to any part of the buildings or grounds.
 3. Damage from pests is influencing the overall, long-term health of a tree, shrub, or other plants.
 4. ~~POPULATION DYNAMICS INDICATE THAT SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN PEST PROBLEMS ARE INEVITABLE AND HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE USE WILL DECREASE THE PEST POPULATION TO A LEVEL THAT CAN BE FURTHER CONTROLLED BY BIOLOGICAL METHODS.~~ POPULATION DYNAMICS INDICATE THAT SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN PEST PROBLEMS ARE INEVITABLE AND HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE USE WILL DECREASE THE PEST POPULATION TO A LEVEL THAT CAN BE FURTHER CONTROLLED BY BIOLOGICAL METHODS.
 5. THERE IS AN IMPENDING LOSS OF THE ESTHETIC, STRUCTURAL, OR FUNCTIONAL INTEGRITY OF AN IMPORTANT DISTRICT RESOURCE WHICH CANNOT BE MANAGED WITHOUT THE USE OF HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES.
- B. All employees who apply ~~pesticides~~ HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES will first receive training that includes methods of ~~pesticide~~ HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE application; knowledge of hazards and procedures of safe ~~pesticide~~ HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE use; AND RECOGNITION OF SYMPTOMS CAUSED BY THE USE OF HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES. ~~AND RECOGNITION OF SYMPTOMS~~ A State of Michigan Certified Pesticide Applicator or other person with formal qualifications will provide this training.
- Employees will wear appropriate protective clothing and equipment when applying ~~pesticides~~ HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES.
- ~~PESTICIDE~~ HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE contractors will provide evidence that their employees have received training from a Michigan Certified Pesticide Applicator or other person with formal qualifications to provide this training. HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE CONTRACTORS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE PROCEDURES IN THIS REGULATION.
- C. PEST CONTROL MEASURES WILL BE APPLIED AS FOLLOWS:
1. THERE WILL BE A WRITTEN PLAN BY THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENT FOR MANAGEMENT OF GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS WHICH IS DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE THE NEED FOR HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE USE.

THE PLAN FOR EACH PEST OR AREA WILL DESCRIBE A METHOD FOR PERIODIC INSPECTION OR MONITORING TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE PEST PROBLEM. FOR EACH PEST PROBLEM, A LEVEL WILL BE DETERMINED AT WHICH PEST CONTROL MEASURES ARE NECESSARY.

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PREVENTATIVE ACTION WILL BE INCLUDED IN EACH MANAGEMENT PLAN. FOR EXAMPLE, MANAGEMENT OF BUILDINGS WILL INCLUDE MECHANICAL EXCLUSION AND SANITATION. MANAGEMENT OF GROUNDS WILL INCLUDE MAINTENANCE OF HEALTHY PLANTS, PROPER WATERING, FERTILIZING, PRUNING, AND MOWING PRACTICES TO MINIMIZE STRESS AND TO REDUCE SUSCEPTIBILITY TO INSECTS, DISEASE AND WEEDS.

2. WHEN PEST CONTROL MEASURES ARE NECESSARY, THE FOLLOWING STEPS WILL BE TAKEN:

RECORDS WILL BE KEPT AS TO THE EXTENT OF THE PEST PROBLEM, THE REASONS FOR DECIDING TO TAKE ACTION, AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE CONTROL MEASURE USED. THESE RECORDS WILL BE KEPT INDEFINITELY.

OPTIONS FOR TREATMENT OF THE PROBLEM MUST BE IDENTIFIED. "LEAST TOXIC" PEST CONTROL MEASURES WILL BE SELECTED WHEN FEASIBLE; REASONS FOR CHOOSING OTHER (MORE TOXIC) MEASURES WILL BE RECORDED.

3. EVALUATION OF PEST CONTROL PRACTICES WILL BE CONDUCTED ON AN ONGOING BASIS. MANAGEMENT PLANS WILL BE REVISED ACCORDING TO EXPERIENCE AND AS NEW TECHNIQUES BECOME AVAILABLE.
4. HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES WILL NOT BE APPLIED IN AREAS WHERE INDIVIDUALS ARE, OR WILL BE, PRESENT FOR 12 HOURS. BUILDING ADMINISTRATORS WILL BE NOTIFIED AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING INDIVIDUALS OUT OF AREAS THAT ARE AFFECTED.
- D. Appropriate notification will accompany any ~~spraying~~/ APPLICATION.
1. Signs will be posted at the time of application of ~~pesticides~~ HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES in schools and on grounds or sites and will remain for a minimum of two business days after the application.
 2. Signs will be at least 10 by 14 inches and will be easily readable. They will be headed "Notice of ~~Pesticide~~ HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE Application". Signs will have space for the following information:
 - (a). name of the ~~pesticide~~ HERBICIDE/PESTICIDE;
 - (b). date of the application;
 - (c). appropriate warning term for the EPA toxicity category:

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