

SAFE PEST CONTROL FOR NEW JERSEY'S SCHOOLS



~ IT'S THE LAW! ~



Pests *and* pesticides can be harmful to people, especially children. New Jersey now has a law (effective June 12, 2004) that requires *all* public, private and charter schools to adopt an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) policy, plan and notification system. IPM focuses on preventing pest problems first*, using low impact methods if necessary (e.g. baits and sticky traps), and applying chemical pesticides only if other methods are ineffective.

All parents, teachers, maintenance staff and school administrators play a role in keeping the school environment safe and healthy. *By knowing more, you can help keep an eye on the proper implementation of this new law.*

Will my school be sending me information about its IPM program?

Once a year, the school is required to send each parent and staff person a copy of the:



1. school's IPM policy,
2. list of the actual pesticides used on school property the prior year, and;
3. name and phone number of the school IPM Coordinator if you want further information.

What notice will I get if a pesticide is used?

Yes. If a pesticide other than low impact is needed, signs will be posted and written notice will go out to all students and staff 72 hours in advance of the pesticide application. There is also a 7-hour delay in re-entry of the sprayed area.

The notice will contain the:

1. name of the pesticide,
2. reason for the application,
3. potential adverse effects of the pesticides,
4. a warning to sensitive persons to avoid unnecessary pesticide exposure, and;
5. name and phone number of the school's IPM Coordinator.



What if there is a pest emergency that must be taken care of immediately?

In the rare case that a pest problem requires an immediate pesticide application, that application can be made. Written notice and signs must be posted within 24 hours of the application.

What should I do if I cannot get this information from my school?

The School IPM requires your school to give you the information about pesticides used in school buildings and grounds. If they refuse, you can file a complaint with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Pesticide Control Program by calling (609) 984-6568.

* Preventing pest problems is easy & will drastically reduce the need for pesticides. Seal crack & crevices where pests can enter, store food in tight containers, screen windows & doors, fix leaks, dehumidify damp areas, clean up clutter, & empty trash daily.

For more information about the law, and IPM & pest control brochures:

Visit the NJDEP website at the School IPM tab at www.pcpnj.org and NJEF's website at www.cleanwateraction.org/njef



NJ Environmental Federation: 1002 Ocean Avenue, Belmar, NJ 07719 (732) 280-8988
Jane Nogaki, NJEF Pesticide Coordinator, 223 Park Avenue, Marlton, NJ 018053
(856) 767-1110 janogaki@cleanwater.org