

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The District's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program includes the following components:

Identification

A knowledgeable person or company competent to carry out pest management duties finds the origin of a pest problem or potential problem.

Prevention and Monitoring

Pest problems are prevented by routine monitoring, identification of potential pest problems and through education of the school community. When necessary, habitat modification is used to discourage pests from an area.

The individual/company responsible for the District's IPM program routinely inspects the building, including entrances, food/water storage sites, and restrooms for pest activity. The individual/company responds to complaints reported by student, staff, parents or other school community members.

Education and Training

Everyone in a school community plays a role in pest management. Students, staff and other stakeholders are provided with the access necessary to implement the IPM program successfully.

Approved Least Toxic Chemical Use

Nontoxic methods of pest control are preferred. When applicable, the District uses environmental, cultural, mechanical and sanitation controls as the primary sources of pest control.

If nontoxic methods of pest control fail or are impractical, the least toxic chemical pesticide that is effective is used. Application techniques that minimize exposure are approved prior to being used. Only trained and qualified workers handle and apply the pesticides.

No school support groups, i.e. PTA, PTO, athletic boosters, etc. are permitted to apply chemicals on District property.

A record of all chemical pest control treatments is kept for at least three years. All records are made available upon request to the general public, the Ohio Department of Agriculture - Section of Pesticide Regulations and the Board of Health upon request.

Prenotification

Any contracted services requiring the use of pesticides or any other chemicals must abide by Board policy and administrative regulations.

Whenever possible, pesticides are administered during non-instructional periods and/or during school breaks.

If it becomes necessary to administer pesticides during times school is in session, the administration provides notice to affected persons, prior to the date and time of the pesticide application. The notice includes the date, time and location of the application, the name of the product being used, and the telephone number to contact the school/company for more information.

Approved: October 16, 2001

Revised: June 18, 2008

Columbia Schools, Columbia Station, Ohio