

# Ohio School Asthma Initiative



## **Model Integrated Pest Management Policy**

Pests can pose significant problems to people, property, and the environment. Pesticides pose similar risks. Children spend a great deal of time in school and face greater potential for health effects resulting from pest and pesticide exposure. By reducing reliance on pesticides and incorporating low-risk control options, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) reduced both pests and pesticide risks. It is therefore the policy of \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert school name) to use IPM procedures for controlling pests.

### **Integrated pest management procedures in schools**

IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, cultural, biological or chemical methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

In each situation staff shall consider the full range of management options, including no action at all. Non-pesticide pest management methods are to be used whenever possible. The choice of using a pesticide shall be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not effective or not reasonable. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used, low impact pesticides and methods are preferred and shall be considered for use first.

### **Development of IPM plans**

This IPM plan is a blueprint of how \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert school name) will manage pests through IPM methods. This plan states the school's goals regarding the management of pests and the use of pesticides. It reflects the school's site-specific needs and provides a description of how each component of the school IPM policy will be implemented at the school. For Public schools, the Local School Board, in collaboration with the school building administrator (principal), shall be responsible for the development of the IPM plan for this school. (For Charter schools and non-public schools, the development of the IPM plan shall be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees or the Principal or Lead Administrator.)

### **IPM Coordinator**

The \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert as appropriate, either local school board, board of trustees, Principal or Lead Administrator) shall designate an integrated pest management coordinator, who is responsible for the implementation of the school integrated pest management policy.

## **Education /Training**

The school community will be educated about potential pest problems and IPM methods used to achieve the pest management objectives.

The IPM Coordinator, other school staff and pesticide applicators involved with implementation of the school IPM policy will be trained in appropriate components of IPM as it pertains to the school environment.

Students and parents or guardians will be provided information on this policy and instructed on how they can contribute to the success of the IPM program.

## **Record keeping**

Records of pesticide use shall be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency and the school board.

Records shall also include, but are not limited to, pest surveillance data sheets and other non-pesticide pest management methods and practices utilized.

## **Notification/Posting**

The \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert as appropriate, either local school board, board of trustees, Principal or Lead Administrator) of \_\_\_\_\_ (Insert school name), is responsible for timely notification to students' parents or guardians and the school staff of pesticide treatments.

## **Re-entry**

Re-entry to a pesticide treated area shall conform to the manufacturer's instructions.

## **Pesticide applicators**

The IPM coordinator shall ensure that applicators follow state regulations, including licensing requirements and label precautions.

## **Evaluation**

Annually, for public schools, the Principal will report to the local school board on the effectiveness of the IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed. (For non-public schools and charter schools, the Lead Administrator or Principal shall report to his/her respective governing board on the effectiveness of the school IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed.) The local school board or other respective governing boards directs the Principal or Lead Administrator to develop regulations/procedures for the implementation of this policy.

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Principal or Superintendent

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Effective Date