

Federal Way Public Schools

Integrated Pest Management Policy

It is the goal of the Federal Way School District to control pests in our buildings and on our grounds with methods, means and materials that result in satisfactory control of pests while maintaining our high standards for health and safety of students, staff and the general public. To help us achieve this goal we are adopting an *Integrated Pest Management Program* (“IPM”) for use in dealing with all pest problems that we encounter within the District.

Integrated Pest Management is a coordinated decision making and action process that uses the most appropriate pest control methods and strategy in an environmentally and economically sound manner to meet District programmatic pest management objectives.

The elements of integrated pest management include:

- A) Preventing pest problems.
- B) Monitoring for the presents of pests and pest damage.
- C) Establishing the density of the pest population, that may be set at zero, that can be tolerated or correlated with a damage level sufficient to warrant treatment of the problem based on health, public safety, economic or aesthetic thresholds.
- D) Treating pest problems to reduce populations below those levels established by damage thresholds using strategies that may include biological, cultural, mechanical, and chemical control methods and that must consider human health, ecological impact, feasibility and cost-effectiveness.
- E) Evaluating the effects and efficiency of pest treatments.

Pest is defined as any insect, rodent, nematode, snail, weed, fungus of other form of plant of animal life that adversely interferes with the aesthetic, health, safety, environmental or economic goals of the District. Pests shall not include viruses or microorganisms on or in a living person or animal, but shall include plant diseases.

Pesticide is defined as a chemical agent registered as a pesticide by the Washington State Department of Agriculture, which can be a herbicide, insecticide, fungicide or other chemical that repels, changes the regular growth rate of, kills or otherwise reduces levels of a targeted pest or pests.

Integrated Pest Management Procedures

It is the intent of the Federal Way Public Schools to utilize IPM principles to manage pest populations to prevent unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property and the

environment. The full range of alternatives (mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural or biological), including no action will be considered. Non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented whenever possible by employing the four levels of control procedures. These procedures assure that exclusion and access denial, harborage and habitat modifications, mechanical and physical controls and limited and judicious pesticide use are all considered prior to selecting the “best” method. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used to meet management goals, the least hazardous material, formulation, and method of application will be chosen.

IPM Procedures

1. **Inspection:** Through inspections are performed for all reported pest problems prior to any control strategy being employed. Inspections determine the actual presents and identity of pest species, level of threat to health or property, the source of the problem, and conditions conducive to further infestation.
2. **Control:** After inspection, a control strategy is provided to the District for approval. Approval is required by a designated maintenance staff member (with understanding of IMP as stated above). Control strategies may require no further action if the pest problem does not warrant it.

Control strategies involve the following steps:

First level of control: Exclusion or access denial. (Prevent pests from entering).

Second level of control: Habitat and harborage modification. (Depriving pests of food at home, creating undesirable conditions).

Third level of control: Mechanical control. (Use of traps, repellents and monitoring devices to control pest infestations).

Fourth level of control: Judicious use of pesticides. Recommended inside applications are limited to baits, pheromones, boric acid dusts, or an approved pesticide that minimizes exposure. It is our policy that no custodians, school staff, teachers, parent or other volunteer apply, purchase or bring into the District any pesticides. (If a pest problem is discovered it must be reported to the Maintenance Department via work order or phone call).

3. **Record Keeping:** Records are kept of all inspections, activity, non-activity and control Measures including pesticide application. These records are maintained by the school district and are kept in the Maintenance Department office.

IPM Coordinator

The IMP Coordinator (The Manager of Maintenance Services or his designee) will oversee pest management for the District. The IMP Coordinator is responsible for evaluating and approving pesticide usage, certification and training of applicators, maintaining and evaluating records to ensure IPM principals are being followed as per the intent of this program and to otherwise review the IPM program and evaluate it’s effectiveness. The IMP Coordinator will also work to increase the level of understanding and involvement of IPM within the District.

Pesticide Purchase and Storage

Only pesticides registered with the U.S. EPA and the WA State Dept. of Agriculture are allowed for purchase by the District. Purchases will be only from registered commercial dealers and must include the current MSDS sheet with each purchase. Current MSDS sheets are to be maintained in the Maintenance Department office for all chemicals on hand or applied within the past 12 months. Applicators must carry current MSDS sheets with them at time of all applications of pesticides. There must be a current MSDS sheet in the vehicle for all chemicals being transported.

No pesticide will be purchased or otherwise brought on to a District site by anyone other than authorized Maintenance Department staff.

Only chemicals pre-approved on attachment (A) are allowed for possession or use within the District. All chemicals on this list noted phase out will be legally used or legally disposed of within the next 12 months. Any new chemical must be pre-approved by the IMP Coordinator prior to its purchase or use within the District.

Only the pesticides that present the least danger in application will be purchased for any specific intended use.

All pesticides will be stored in the approved chemical storage room at the maintenance department. No chemicals will be left in vehicles or spray equipment outside of this room.

Landscape Modification and Plantings

Since much of our IPM program will be designed around the particular type and layout of the landscape and its features at each site, any modification to the landscape, its features or plant addition's or deletion's must be reviewed and approved by the maintenance department prior to any activity.