

RSU #63

- a. **NEPN/NSBA Code:** ECB
- b. **Title:** Pesticide Applications/Notification
- c. **Author:**
- d. **Replaces Policy:**
- e. **Date Approved:** 10/25/2021 RSU #63
- f. **Previously Approved:** 02/23/2015
- g. **Policy Expiration:** Review as Needed
- h. **Responsible for Review:** Transportation and Facilities Director and Policy Committee
- i. **Date Reviewed:** 10/06/2021 Policy Committee
09/17/2021 Transportation and Facilities Director
- j. **References:** 7 MRSA Sections 601 through 625; 22 MRSA Sections 1471-A through 1471-X; ME Dept. of Agriculture 01-026, Chap. 27
- k. **Narrative:**

The RSU #63 Board of Directors (the Board) recognizes structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems for people and RSU #63 (the District) property. Some pesticides also pose health and safety risks to people, property, and the environment. It is the policy of the District to incorporate Integrated Pest Management principles and procedures for control of structural and landscape pests.

- I. Definition: Integrated Pest Management (IPM), for the purpose of this regulation means:
 - A. The selection, integration, and implementation of pest damage prevention and control based on predicted pest damages, and managing pests and natural enemies;
 - B. Selecting the appropriate system of pest disposal, either by mechanical or chemical prevention;
 - C. Defining “pests” as living organisms (animals, plants, or micro-organisms) that interfere with the intended use of school facilities, equipment, and/or grounds;
 - D. Recognizing that “pesticide” is any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any pests and/or to regulate, defoliate, or desiccate plants.
- II. The IPM Coordinator is the District’s Transportation and Facilities Director and is responsible for the following:
 - A. Proper management of pest control, which includes proper training of any staff assigned pest control duties.
 - B. Notifying building occupants of any pest problem as soon as possible following detection;

- C. Ensuring proper steps are followed for pest disposal, in accordance with state laws and district policy;
- D. Identifying and maintaining pest management objectives;
- E. Maintaining a safe, sustainable school environment;
- F. Protecting human health by suppressing pests that threaten public health and safety;
- G. Reducing exposure of humans, particularly children, to pesticides;
- H. Reducing or preventing pest damage to District properties;
- I. Reducing environmental pollution;
- J. Preventing pests from spreading beyond District properties; and
- K. Enhancing the quality of life for students, staff, and others using District properties.

III. State law has exempted notification of use for the:

- A. Application of ready-to-use general pesticides by hand or non-powered equipment to control or repel stinging or biting insects when there is an urgent need to eliminate a pest that threatens the health or safety of any student, staff, or other occupant.
- B. Application of general use products by hand or with non-powered equipment to interior or exterior surfaces and furnishings during the course of routine cleaning procedures and application of paints, stains, or wood preservatives that are classified as general use pesticides.

IV. Notification:

- A. When pesticide application is necessary, a licensed applicator will take into account the toxicity of the recommended products and choose the lowest risk products based on the signal word on the pesticide label and the commercial safety data sheet. Other toxicology data and any other label language indicating special problems such as toxicity to wildlife or likelihood of contaminating surface or ground water must be reviewed with the Transportation and Facilities Director before any application.
- B. The attached Building Occupants Notification form will be completed and delivered to the District's superintendent and building supervisor prior to any pesticide control treatment as required by state and federal laws.

V. To the extent possible, applications will occur on weekends and during school vacations. They will not occur when students are present.

**NOTIFICATION
to
BUILDING OCCUPANTS
of
PESTICIDE APPLICATION**

FROM: _____ DATE: _____
RSU #63 Transportation and Facilities Director/Pesticide Coordinator
202 Kidder Hill Road
Holden, ME 04429

TO: _____

The _____ School will be treated for pesticide control on _____ (date). A written policy for pesticide management control has been developed. This plan is available for inspection at the Central Office at 202 Kidder Hill Road, Holden, ME.

Description of Control Action:

Sincerely,

RSU #63 Transportation and Facilities
Director/Pesticide Coordinator