

IPM PLAN FOR THE GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Pest populations in and around a school can pose significant safety and health risks to children and staff in a school. Traditional pest control methods of routinely scheduled applications of pesticides may also present potential risks. Routine applications are unnecessary and have limited effectiveness in providing long-term control.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) emphasizes prevention and elimination of pest accesses, harborage areas, food sources, and other conducive conditions in and around buildings. In the IPM process, monitoring and the interpretation of the data gathered provide estimates of pest populations in a given area. Monitoring allows accurate decisions to be made about what type of intervention measures that may be needed, when intervention is necessary, and when is the optimum time to apply them. These measures may involve correcting mechanical/structural problems, poor sanitation conditions, and eliminating harborage areas to name a few. If pests become a problem, non-chemical alternatives will be employed to reduce the pest population. Pesticides are used only as a last resort, using the least hazardous materials and precisely applying them to targeted areas. No pesticides will be applied in any school building unless the presence of the pest has been confirmed and identified. Preventative treatments will not be routinely made.

All over-the-counter pesticides that are in any school will be immediately removed from school property. The administration will inform staff and teachers that under this regulation the use of any over-the-counter pesticides on school property is against the law. If a school employee has a valid Massachusetts State pesticide license, they could use the approved pesticides. However, the Granby Public Schools would then take full responsibility that the school employee is applying the product safely and is not disobeying the regulation.

Indoor Application

In the event an application of a pesticide needs to be applied, the following materials are allowed to be used under this regulation without written notification:

1. Insecticidal baits, including those contained in tamper-resistant bait stations, applied or placed in areas inaccessible to children.
2. Rodenticide baits contained in tamper-resistant stations, placed in areas inaccessible to children.
3. Anti-microbial products and disinfectants.
4. Ready-to-use dusts, gels, and powders placed in precise locations inaccessible to children.

Outdoor Applications

No pesticide applications will be made outside any school building when children are located within 150 feet of the treatment location. If a pesticide treatment needs to be applied, it must be scheduled when children are not present. A *Standard Written Notification*, consumer Information Bulletin, and chemical/pesticide fact sheet will be issued to faculty and parents at least two days before the scheduled treatment. Said notifications may be provided via electronic means. The pest control company will fill out the *Standard Written Notification* form and the school will be responsible for distributing the three documents to the appropriate people. In the case of an emergency, like a yellow jacket nest, school officials will need to get a written consent from the town public health official to grant a “single use waiver.” This waiver will allow the pest control company the legal means to treat the nest immediately. Even in this situation, written notification will still need to be issued to faculty and parents after the treatment. In addition, pesticide warning-signs need to be posted by the pest control company around the treatment location for at least 72 hours (three days). Copies of the “single use waiver” can be downloaded from the Pesticide Bureau web site (www.massdfa.org).

This IPM program can only be successful if faculty, staff, and the pest control company collaborate their efforts. Everyone needs to work as a team to maintain a pest free environment. The designated pest control coordinator and pest control company representative should set up a meeting with selected school employees and outside contractors. The employees/contractors may include, but not be limited to, waste management contractors, kitchen, and custodial workers. After an initial meeting to introduce IPM, follow up training sessions can be scheduled. The needs of the employees and the conditions in and around the school buildings may determine the frequency of the training sessions and the topics discussed. Every school will be issued an IPM logbook. These logbooks will contain detailed records of service visits, pesticide applications, and pest sightings as well as other important information.

Adopted May 3, 2004
Revised June 8, 2009