

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The Bangor School Department desires to prevent unnecessary exposure of children and employees to pesticides and weed control products. It is the policy of the Bangor School Department to use pesticides and weed control products only when pests have been identified and their presence verified. Selection of corrective actions will give priority to the safest yet most effective action to achieve the desired results. When determined that pesticides are needed, only products registered for use in Maine will be used, and according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The policy also dictates that only individuals licensed with the Maine Board of Pesticides Control or those under the supervision of a licensed commercial applicator will apply pesticide products. Exceptions to the policy will be the use of over-the-counter products by unlicensed staff to control stinging insects on school property, non-volatile sprays directed into cracks or crevices, non-volatile baits or gels placed in areas inaccessible to children, and disinfectants used for routine cleaning. It will be school department policy to make proper notification and posting, and to keep accurate records of pesticide use. A copy of this policy will be maintained in the principal's office and will be available upon request.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Team will be designated by the Superintendent of Schools. It shall be composed of a Department IPM Coordinator, the Director of Maintenance, the Director of Food Services, and a School Nurse. In each school the Head Custodian will act as the Building IPM Leader.

SCHOOL PEST PROBLEMS

School personnel in the Bangor School District have from time to time noticed such pests as ants, lice, mice, rats, cockroaches, bees, and wasps, as well as common lawn weeds. These pests have been seen in various areas of the buildings and grounds. The department will implement a monitoring program to detect and pinpoint hot spots.

INSPECTION AND MONITORING

The IPM Coordinator and the School IPM Leader, along with the IPM Team, will conduct an annual inspection of all schools. The inspection will focus on identifying problems and determine corrective actions necessary to prevent or manage pest infestations. Items to be looked for will include, but will not be limited to, water leaks, missing window or vent screens, rodent burrows, landscaping needs, and broken or unsanitary dumpsters. Items needing corrective action will be addressed immediately or scheduled to be completed so that instruction is not interrupted. The IPM Team will also look for the improper storage of hazardous materials, such as cleaning materials, and take immediate corrective action. A written report will be generated describing problems and the timetable for corrective action established.

In addition to the annual inspection, the School IPM Leader will conduct a monthly inspection of the school, including the kitchen and food storage areas, looking for signs of pest infiltrations. The inspection of the kitchen, and areas where pests have been noticed in the past, will be more than a cursory look and will include the moving of furniture and the use of flashlights as appropriate to look under and behind furniture and fixtures.

For current, recent, or likely pests, a monthly monitoring program will be established as follows: Ants and other crawling insects will be monitored by non-pesticide cardboard sticky traps. Sticky cardboard monitors will be placed and checked monthly in the kitchen and food storage areas of all



schools. Where mice or other rodents have been noticed in the past, or suspected to be present, the department will use sticky cardboard monitors or non-pesticide baited traps in locked and secured stations.

Pest sighting sheets will be made available to all staff for reporting specific sightings and identification (if known) or other evidence (droppings). Completed sheets will be placed in a folder located in the main office. The School IPM leader will check for new sighting sheets daily.

PESTICIDE USE AND STORAGE

Whenever practical, the Bangor School Department will use non-chemical means to control or limit pests and will minimize the use of pesticides. Proper sanitation and maintenance actions to eliminate food, water, shelter and entryways for pests, along with non-pesticide traps, will be used to reduce or eliminate pests. The exception to the foregoing is again the use of over-the-counter products to control stinging insects and the routine use of cleaning supplies.

Pesticides and cleaning supplies will be stored safely and in an area away from the student population. MSDS sheets for cleaning products and pesticides are available upon request.

If the problem cannot be handled by non-chemical means, a licensed pesticide contractor will be called in to assess the situation and, if necessary, apply pesticides in accordance with Maine Law and product specifications.

RECORD KEEPING

A log will be kept and maintained in the main office of each school of all pesticide applications at each school. The log will be maintained for a period of not less than three years.

NOTIFICATION OF STAFF, PARENTS, AND LEGAL GUARDIANS

Within two weeks of the opening of school each year, all staff, parents and legal guardians will be advised that an Integrated Pest Management Plan exists, that it may be reviewed upon request at the school, and that pesticides may be applied periodically in school buildings and grounds. The notification will also state that applications will be done in accordance of State Law and that a record of prior applications and information about the pesticides used are available.

Persons wishing notification of each application performed inside a building or on school grounds may make a written request to receive such notification.

Signs in Accordance to State Law will be place at each point of entry two working days prior to the application and will remain in place for 48 hours after the application.

ADOPTED: March 24, 2003

REVIEWED: March 28, 2023

