



## Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

### Guidance for Pesticide Applications at Schools and Day Care Centers

#### ***Requirements affecting all applications at all schools (Public and Private)***

1) All applications of pesticides must be performed by an individual that is licensed as a commercial supervisor or commercial operator under the direct supervision of a certified supervisor. The only exception is that an emergency application to eliminate an immediate threat to human health may be made by an uncertified person when it is not practical to have the area treated by a licensed person.

2) No application of pesticide can be made in any building or on the grounds of any school during regular business hours or during planned activities. The only exception is that applications of sanitizers, disinfectants, antimicrobial agents and pesticide bait formulations including baits used to control cockroaches; ants and rodents may be used during those periods.

#### ***Requirements for pesticide applications for turf and ornamental areas for all schools***

1) For turf and ornamental areas including trees, only pesticides that are exempt from EPA registration requirements can be applied on the grounds of public or private pre-schools or schools with students in grades K through 8. The only exception is that between 10/1/07 and 7/1/09, EPA registered lawn care pesticides can be applied as described in an integrated pest management plan that is consistent with DEP's model to playing fields and playgrounds only. After 7/1/09, the only pesticide applications that will be allowed for turf and ornamental applications will be of pesticides that are exempt from EPA registration requirements.

2) For grades 9 and up; schools under the control of a Board of Education must develop a pest control policy and system of notification as described below. Private schools may use a traditional or integrated pest management program. There is no requirement to develop a written pest control policy or to provide notification.

#### ***Requirements for general pest and rodent control applications for all schools***

1) No application of pesticide can be made in any building or on the grounds of any school during regular business hours or during planned activities. The only exception is that applications of sanitizers, disinfectants, antimicrobial agents and pesticide bait formulations including baits used to control cockroaches; ants and rodents may be used during those periods.

#### ***Requirements for schools under the control of a local or regional Board of Education***

1) At the beginning of each school year, the local or regional Board of Education must *develop a pest control policy*. The policy can be in favor of traditional pest control methods that utilize scheduled pesticide applications whether pests are present or not or a policy of integrated pest

management (IPM) that utilizes all methods of pest control including structural maintenance, sanitation and the judicious use of pesticides if pest populations exceed an acceptable level.

2) Schools must maintain records of pesticide applications for 5 years.

Records must include;

- name(s) & certification number(s) of the certified commercial supervisor and operator
- the kind and amount of pesticide used
- the date and place of application
- the pest treated for
- the crop or site treated

***Requirements for Boards of Education employing traditional pest control policies***

1) At the beginning of each school year, a board of education having a traditional pest control policy must provide a pest control policy statement to staff of each school and to the parents/guardians of children enrolled in each school.

a) The policy statement must

1) include a summary of pesticide applications made at the school during the previous school year.

2) indicate that staff, parents/guardians may register for prior notice of pesticide applications at the school

3) describe notification procedures for emergency applications

2) Each school is responsible for maintaining a registry of persons who wish to be notified.

3) The school shall provide for the mailing of notices to parents and guardians who have registered to be notified so that they receive the notification no later than 24 hours prior to the application. School staff that has registered to be notified of pesticide applications may be notified by any means practicable.

a) Notification must include;

1) the name of the active ingredient of the pesticide being applied

2) the location of the application on the school property

3) the date of the application, and

4) the name of the school administrator, or a designee, who may be contacted for further information

***Requirements for Boards of Education employing Integrated Pest Management Policies***

1) At the beginning of each school year, a board of education having an integrated pest management policy must provide staff of each school with written guidelines on how the IPM plan (*which must be consistent with DEP's model plan*) is to be implemented and provide parents/guardians of enrolled students with a statement that includes a summary of the IPM plan for the school.

a) The statement must

1) indicate that staff, parents/guardians may register for prior notice of pesticide applications at the school

2) describe notification procedures for emergency applications

2) Each school is responsible for maintaining a registry of persons who wish to be notified.

3) The school shall provide notice to any person that has registered to be notified by any means practicable on or before the date of application at the school.

a) Notification must include;

1) the name of the active ingredient of the pesticide being applied

2) the location of the application on the school property

3) the date of the application, and

4) the name of the school administrator, or a designee, who may be contacted for further information

4) The school must notify people who have registered to be notified of any modification to the IPM plan.

### ***Emergency applications***

Applications of pesticides may be allowed to eliminate a threat to human health as determined by; local health director, commissioner of public health, commissioner of environmental protection, or, for public schools, the school superintendent.

School Superintendents, local health directors and pest control professionals should refer to the guidance document entitled "Guidance on Determination of Threats to Human Health, Allowing Application of Lawn Care Pesticides at Schools" developed by the Department of Environmental Protections and Department of Public Health regarding the determination and treatment of health threats.

The pests listed on the guidance document are considered to be the most common ones for which a decision will likely need to be made. Nuisance pests, such as dog ticks, biting flies or mosquitoes in the absence of indications they are carrying disease, are not considered a threat to human health sufficient to justify control with lawn care pesticides. Integrated pest management (IPM) recommendations are also made for each pest, which should reduce the amount of pesticide used and increase the effectiveness of an application, if needed.

### ***Requirements affecting applications at Day Care Centers***

1) No application of pesticide may be made in any building or on the grounds of any child day care center as described in Connecticut General Statutes Section 19a-77 during regular business hours, except that an emergency application may be made to eliminate an immediate threat to human health and does not involve the use of restricted use pesticide.

2) No person shall apply pesticides that are labeled for use in lawn, garden and ornamental sites or areas on the grounds of any child day care center, except that products exempt from EPA registration requirements may be used.

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