

## **Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

### **Pesticide Application**

The Capitol Region Education Council has adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) policy for pest control within our buildings and grounds. IPM utilizes all available pest control methods such as sanitation, structural maintenance and exclusion, maintaining proper soil PH, fertility and moisture, trapping and/or biological controls along with the judicious use of pesticides to maintain pest populations at or below an acceptable level. Pesticides may be applied if a pest population has been identified through periodic monitoring, and alternative methods of control have not been effective. The least toxic pesticide would be used first.

The intent of this policy is to ensure that students, employees and parents/guardians receive adequate notice, in conformity with applicable statutes, prior to pesticide application in school buildings and on school grounds. Further, effective July 1, 2000, CREC will only employ certified pesticide applicators for any non-emergency pesticide use in school buildings or on school grounds.

CREC shall:

- Provide notice of planned pesticide application to students, parents/guardians and employees in the manner required by law.
- Post the areas scheduled to receive pesticide application(s).
- Maintain written records for five years of all pesticide applications.
- Provide continuing instruction to those students who, based upon written medical request, find it necessary to absent themselves during the period of application.
- Inform annually parents/guardians and staff of CREC'S pest application/management policy.
- Establish a registry of parents/guardians and staff who want to receive advance notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice as required by law.
- Provide the name of the school administrator or designee that can be contacted for further information.

Pest control applicators employed by CREC shall provide the school contact person (*Supervisor of Maintenance, Head Custodian*) with notice at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date and time the pesticide application is to occur, including in such notice the brand name, concentration, rate of application, pesticide label, material safety data sheet, list of the area or areas where the pesticide is to be applied and any use restrictions required by the pesticide label. Prior to the application, the applicator shall provide the school contact person with a written pre-application notification containing the following information:

### 3524.1

- The brand name, rate of application and any use restrictions required by the label of the herbicide or specific pesticide.
- 
- The area or areas where the pesticide is to be applied.
- The date and time the application is to occur.
  
- The pesticide label and the material safety data sheet.
  
- Pesticide applications will not be performed within any building or on the grounds of the school during regular hours or during planned activities unless an emergency application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health. When this occurs, all children and staff will be removed from the area and not allowed to return until it is safe to do so according to the pesticide label.

A determination of an immediate health threat may be made by Executive Director or designee whereas the licensed applicator can make an emergency lawn care pesticide application for human health protection. In such case CREC shall notify students, parents and guardians of the area to be treated through our emergency notification system, School Messenger.

The Executive Director or designee may require the pest control applicator to make the required postings in accordance with all applicable statutes and with District policy and regulations. The name and address of the applicator shall be a part of any posting.

Pesticide purchases shall be limited to amounts authorized by the Executive Director or designee for use during the year. Pesticides shall be stored in a secure site not accessible to students or unauthorized staff. They shall be stored and disposed of in accordance with EPA registered label directions and applicable state statutes.

The Executive Director shall prepare and disseminate regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-231a to 10-231d. Pesticide applications at schools

22a-46. Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.

22a-54. Pesticide applicators, certification, classification, notice, fees, reciprocity; financial responsibility; aircraft, tree, public employee applicators.

22a-58. Records to be kept by distributors and applicators.

23-61a. Definitions. Tree protection examining Board within Department of Consumer Protection. Regulations.

23-61b. Licensing for arboriculture; examination; fees; renewal; suspension, revocation. Nonresidents. Records. Pesticides.

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) 7 U.S. Code 136 et seq.

Policy adopted: June 16, 2004  
Policy revised: February 20, 2013

## Business/Non-Instructional Operations

### Pesticide Application Procedures

**In an attempt to assure proper control of any pesticides or other harmful chemicals which might be used or stored on district premises, these procedures are established. To fulfill statutory requirements, "pesticide" is defined as a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide, or a rodenticide, but does not mean a sanitizer, disinfectant, antimicrobial agent or a pesticide bait.**

The intent is to prevent unnecessary exposure of staff, students or the public to potentially harmful substances.

1. On or after July 1, 2000, only certified pesticide applicators shall be used in schools (vocational agricultural schools exempted) for any non-emergency pesticide use in school buildings or on school grounds.
2. An emergency application of pesticides is defined as when an application of pesticides is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health and where it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator provided such emergency application does not involve a restricted use pesticide as defined in CGS 22a-47. Restricted use pesticides may be used only by certified applicators or under their direct supervision. *(Note: Restricted use pesticides, classified by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency or the DEP are those which may present a hazard to the applicator or other people by reason of acute dermal or inhalation toxicity or which may have an unreasonable adverse effect on the environment.)*
3. On or after July 1, 2000, at the beginning of each school year, the Executive Director/Designee shall provide the staff of each school with written guidelines on how the integrated pest management plan is to be implemented and the parents/guardians of each child enrolled in each school with a statement that shall include a summary of the integrated pest management plan for the school. Such statements shall also be provided to the parents/guardians of any child who transfers to a school during the school year.
4. The aforementioned required statement shall (1) indicate that the staff, parents or guardians may register for notice of pesticide applications at their school, and (2) describe the emergency notification procedures provided for in this section. Notice of any modification to the integrated pest management plan shall be sent to any person who registers for notice under section 5, below.
5. On or after July 1, 2000, parents/guardians and staff may register for prior notice of pesticide applications at their school. Information on how parents may register for prior notice shall be included on the home page of the CREC website. Each school shall maintain a registry of persons requesting such notice. Prior to the application of pesticides within any building or on school grounds, the parents/guardians who have registered for prior notice shall receive a mailing, to be received no later than 24 hours prior to the application. Staff who have registered for such notice shall be notified

By any means practicable. Notice of such application shall be posted on the home page of either the CREC website or the school website, and on the primary CREC or school social media account.

6. The aforementioned notice shall include the (1) name of the active ingredient of the pesticide to be applied, (2) target pest, (3) location of the application, (4) date of application, (5) name of the school administrator or his/her designee who may be contacted for further information.
7. Not later than March fifteenth of each year, the aforementioned notice for applications made since January first of such year and a listing of such notices for applications made during the March fifteenth through December thirty-first time frame from the preceding calendar year shall be sent through the electronic mail notification or alert system or service; and shall be printed in the parent handbook or manual.
8. No application of pesticide, after July 1, 2000, may be made in any building or on school grounds during regular school hours or during planned activities at the school except for an emergency application.
9. If an emergency application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, such application shall not involve a restricted use pesticide and no child may enter the area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.
10. In cases of an emergency application, effective July 1, 2000, prior notice is not necessary, except that on or before the day the application is to take place, notice must be given to those persons who have previously requested such notice.
11. A copy of the records of each pesticide application at a school shall be maintained for five years.
12. Potentially harmful substances such as insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides or other pesticides shall be chosen for the low levels of toxicity. The least toxic formulations and safest methods of application will be selected when there is a choice of products with comparable effectiveness. Whenever practical, non-chemical controls shall be used.
13. Storage of harmful products will be kept to a minimum. Only enough of the product for a given application shall be purchased. All storage instructions will be followed explicitly. All such products and the application equipment will be stored away from other activities and especially separated from food products or occupied rooms. All storage facilities will be maintained as a locked area and clearly marked as containing pesticides.
14. All pesticide products will have complete label instructions, will remain in the original container and the Material Safety Data Sheet will be on file and readily available to any employee who must handle such materials or who may have been exposed to the product. This information shall also be available to any member of the public upon request.

15. All applications of harmful products will be made in strict compliance with label instructions and under no circumstances will the product concentrations exceed those specified in the application instructions.
16. Prior to application of any harmful substance, a written plan for that application will be filed in the district's business office and approved by the Facilities Manager.
17. The plan will contain the purpose of the application, product to be used, formulation of the product, location and extent of the area to be treated, type of equipment to be used, date and time of application, and amount of the product to be used. Any warnings that would restrict use of the area following such application also will be part of the plan and will be appropriately posted to notify the public.
18. Treated school grounds will be posted as indicated in the following section.
19. District employees responsible for handling and applying pesticides shall have specific pesticide training. After July 1, 2000, only certified pesticide applicators may be used.
20. When the district contracts with a private, state-licensed pest control company, such contractors will be subject to regulations as defined in state statutes.

The Executive Director or designee shall be the contact person for providing information regarding pesticide application activities at the school site, including but not limited to giving oral and written notification, supervising the posting of notifications as required and maintaining records of pesticide-application notifications.

### **Oral and Written Notice**

All oral and written notification shall contain the information indicated in item # 6 above. During the regular school session, prior to pesticide application, notification shall be provided as indicated below.

- Oral notification to all students and school employees shall be provided by means of the school public address system or assembly communications or staff meeting announcements or any similar means reasonably calculated to provide sufficient notice in advance of pesticide application. (suggest minimum 48 hours advance notice)
- Parents and guardians and staff who have registered for advance notification of pesticide use shall be informed as listed in item # 5 above.

### **Posting of Notice**

Not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to pesticide application, signs shall be posted to identify pesticide application areas. The signs shall display:

- The words “Warning Pesticides.”
- The date and time of the planned application.
- Pesticide product to be used.
- Instructions on when areas may be used for recreational purposes.
- A telephone number for the school contact person and one for the licensed pesticide applicator.

The signs shall be placed at:

- The main entrance to all buildings where pesticide is to be applied.
- The playing fields where pesticide is to be applied.

The signs may be removed no less than forty-eight (48) hours after the pesticide is applied.

Regulation approved: June 16, 2004  
Revised: October 17, 2012  
Revised: January 20, 2016

CAPITOL REGION EDUCATION COUNCIL  
Hartford, Connecticut