# Palmyra Area School District

SECTION: PROPERTY

TITLE: INTEGRATED PEST

MANAGEMENT PLAN

**POLICY** 

ADOPTED: December 12, 2002

REVISED: August 11, 2005

# 711. INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN POLICY

# 1. Level of Policy

#### 2. References

3. Summary of Policy

4. Definitions

5. Statement of Policy

## Required

School Code, 24 P.S. § 772.1

This policy establishes guidelines for the implementation of an integrated pest management program designed to control and alleviate pest problems with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment.

- 1. "Integrated pest management plan" (or "IPM Plan") means a plan that establishes a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools in a way that minimizes health, economic and environmental risks.
- 2. "Pest" means an insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, virus, bacteria, microorganisms (except those on or living in humans or living animals), or other plant or animal life declared to be a pest under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.
- 3. "Pesticide" means a substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating a pest, or for use as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant.

#### <u>Delegation of Responsibility</u>

The Board shall approve and adopt an Integrated Pest Management Plan ("IPM Plan") for all School District buildings and grounds. The IPM Plan shall comply with section 772.1 of the School Code, as well as all policies and regulations promulgated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The Superintendent or a designee shall develop appropriate guidelines and

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policies to implement the School District's IPM Plan.

The Superintendent shall designate an IPM coordinator who will: (i) oversee implementation of the School District's IPM Plan, (ii) coordinate communication between the School District and approved IPM contractors, and (iii) develop appropriate materials to educate staff, students and members of the public about IPM policies and procedures.

#### IPM Plan Guidelines

The School District's IPM Plan may include education, exclusion, sanitation, maintenance, biological and mechanical controls, and site-appropriate pesticides.

IPM decisions shall include the following steps:

- 1. Identify pest species
- 2. Estimate pest population and compare to established action thresholds
- 3. Select appropriate management tactics based on site-specific information
- 4. Evaluate success of pest management
- 5. Maintain appropriate records

### **IPM Notice**

The IPM coordinator shall notify parents and guardians of the procedures for requesting notification of planned and emergency applications of pesticides in school building and on school grounds

When pesticide applications are planned in school buildings or on school grounds, the IPM coordinator shall provide appropriate notification as required by law, including the following forms of notice:

- 1. Post a pest control sign in an appropriate common area at least seventy-two (72) hours\_before any planned pesticide application and for at least two (2) days following any planned pesticide application.
- 2. Provide a pest control information sheet to all individuals who work in a school building at least seventy-two (72) hours before any planned pesticide application.
- 3. Provide notice (including information about the pesticide applicator, the date of the planned pesticide application, and the pesticide to be used) to parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school, using normal school communication procedures, at least seventy-two (72) hours before any planned pesticide application, **or** provide such notice to parents or guardians who request notification of individual pesticide applications according to the Procedures developed by the IPM coordinator.

6. Options,Comments,AdditionalConsiderations

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## **Emergency Pesticide Applications**

If pests pose an immediate threat to the health and safety of students or staff, the IPM coordinator or Superintendent may authorize an emergency pesticide application. When an emergency pesticide application is authorized, the IPM coordinator shall contact parents or guardians who have requested notification or individual pesticide applications by telephone, as soon as practicable.

## IPM Records

The IPM coordinator shall maintain appropriate records of all pesticide applications and other pest control measures. IPM records shall be maintained for a period of at least three (3) years and shall be available for inspection by members of the public in accordance with the School District's public records policy.

Notification to parents may be accomplished in two ways. The School District may choose to provide notice to all parents using "normal school communication procedures." Alternatively, notice may be provided only to those parents who request notification according to procedures established by the IPM coordinator. School Districts may consider providing both a general notification about upcoming pesticide applications and specific notice to parents who request such notice.