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“A Model IPM Policy for New Jersey Schools”

**Ann Waters*

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) in cooperation with the New Jersey School Boards Association, the Commissioner of Education, and Rutgers Cooperative Extension successfully developed a template model policy Integrated Pest Management Policy for schools (published on June 2, 2003).

The New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act of 2002 requires schools to implement a school integrated pest management policy. As per this policy, each local school board of a school district, the Chief Administrator of a public school, each board of trustees of a charter school, and each Principal or Chief Administrator of a non-public school as appropriate, shall implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures to control pests and minimize exposure of children, faculty, and staff to pesticides. _____(Insert school name) shall develop and maintain an IPM plan as part of the school's policy.

Integrated pest management procedures in schools

Implementation of IPM procedures will determine when to

control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, cultural, biological or chemical methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

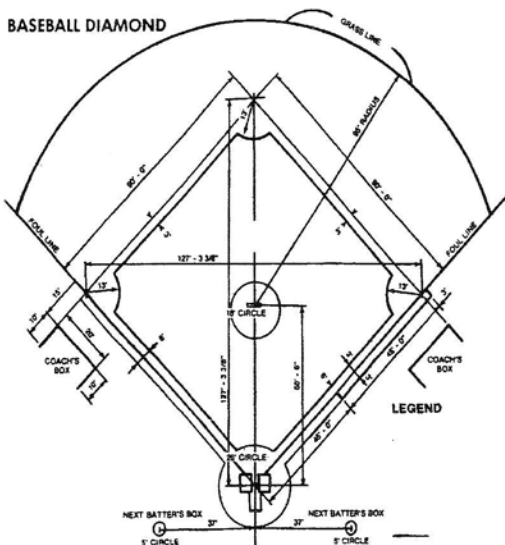
Each school shall consider the full range of management options, including no action at all. Non-pesticide pest management methods are to be used whenever possible. The choice of using a pesticide shall be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not effective or not reasonable. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used, low impact pesticides and methods are preferred and shall be considered for use first.

Development of IPM plans

The school IPM plan is a blueprint of how _____(Insert school name) will manage pests through IPM methods. The school IPM plan states the school's goals regarding the management of pests and the use of pesticides. It reflects the school's site-specific needs. The IPM plan shall provide a description of how each component of the school IPM policy will be implemented at the school. For Public schools, the Chief School Administrator,

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In collaboration with the school building administrator, shall be responsible for the development of the IPM plan for this school. For Charter schools and non-public schools, the development of the IPM plan shall be the responsibility of the Chief School Administrator or Principal.

IPM Coordinator: The _____ (Insert as appropriate, either local school board, board of trustees, Chief School Administrator, or Principal) shall designate an integrated pest management coordinator, who is responsible for the implementation of the school integrated pest management policy.

Education /Training: The school community will be educated about potential pest problems and IPM methods used to achieve the pest management objectives.

The IPM Coordinator, other school staff and pesticide applicators involved with implementation of the school IPM policy will be trained in appropriate components of IPM as it pertains to the school environment.

Students, parents/guardians will be provided information on this policy and instructed on how they can contribute to the success of the IPM program.

Record keeping: Records of pesticide use shall be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency and the school board.

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Vendors and Demonstrations for Aug. 5th field day, as of July 15th

Aer-Core, Inc. -	Blec Sandmaster Sand Injector, Wiedenmann Deep Tine Aerator
DVH Athletic Turf -	None
Geo.Schofield Co. Inc. -	None
JDL Equipment -	Battery powered field liner,
RotaDairon Emrex, Inc. -	Finn Mini Skidsteer, Thatch Master, OverSeeder
Till Paint Co. Inc. -	Jaydee Driver Liner
Wilfred McDonald -	Smithco Super Rake Infield Conditioner, I-Stripe 22 Infield Mower, Jacobsen Turfcut Rotary Mower.
Storr Tractor -	First Products Aeravator Aerator Seeder, Buffalo Turbine Blower on WM2100, Toro Groundsmaster 3500
Ocean County Utility Authority.-	None
National Seed -	None

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Records shall also include, but are not limited to, pest surveillance data sheets and other non-pesticide pest management methods and practices utilized.

Notification/Posting

The _____(Insert as appropriate, either local school board, board of trustees, Chief School Administrator, or Principal) of _____(Insert school name), is responsible for timely notification to students' parents or guardians and the school staff of pesticide treatments pursuant to the School IPM Act.

Re-entry

Re-entry to a pesticide treated area shall conform to the requirements of the School IPM Act.

Pesticide applicators

The IPM coordinator shall ensure that applicators follow state regulations, including licensing requirements and label precautions, and must comply with all components of the School IPM Policy.

Evaluation

Annually, for public schools, the Chief School Administrator will report to the local school board on the effectiveness of the IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed. For non-public schools and charter schools, the Chief School Administrator(s) or Principal(s) shall report to their respective governing boards on the effectiveness of the school IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed.

The local school board directs the Chief School Administrator to develop regulations/procedures for the implementation of this policy. ▲

Authorizing Regulatory references including definitions

The School Integrated Pest Management Act of 2002 N.J.A.C. Title 7 Chapter 30 Subchapters 1-12 Pesticide Control Act of 1971

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"IPM in New Jersey Schools"

Explaining the policy

*Ann R. Waters

On December 12, 2002, Governor McGreevey signed into law Senate Bill 137 as the "School Integrated Pest Management Act." This new legislation

requires the implementation of Integrated Pest Management practices at all New Jersey public, private and charter schools by June 12, 2004. New Jersey now joins several other states within the U.S. who have signed into law legislation requiring IPM methods for managing pests in school environments, thereby reducing the risks associated with pesticide exposure.

One of the key components of the Act is the development of a **model IPM policy** to be utilized by the schools for the development of their individual policies. In March, a meeting was held to begin work on the development of the model policy. A large group of stakeholders comprised of a variety of school participants as well as industry, non-profit and government representatives provided input on the language and format of the draft document. Eleanor Murfitt and Jim Hermann represented the SFMANJ as part of this advisory group. A smaller working group comprised of representatives of the NJDEP-Pesticide Control Program (NJDEP-PCP), Rutgers Cooperative Extension, New Jersey School Boards Association and the Department of Education completed the development of the final model policy document, which will be made available to all NJ schools.

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