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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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The additional requirements of the Act include the following:

- Appointment of an **IPM Coordinator** by each local school board, board of trustees or principal or chief administrator of each public, private or charter school to implement the school IPM policy.
- **Annual universal notification** to all parents or guardians and staff regarding the IPM policy, IPM Coordinator contact information as well as a listing of any pesticides currently in use or having been used on school property within the previous 12 month period.
- **72 hour prior notification** to all parents or guardians and staff as well as posting of area(s) to be treated of any pesticide with the exception of **low-impact pesticides** as they are defined in the Act.
- **Emergency applications** of non-low impact pesticides may be made when there is a threat to the health or safety of students or staff members without prior notification. Notification would follow within 24 hours of the application.
- Unless specified otherwise on the pesticide product label, a **7- hour re-entry** interval to the treated area must be followed.

In the months ahead, prior to the required deadline for adoption of the IPM mandate by all schools, a **model plan** will be developed to accompany the **model policy** which will provide procedures and methods of implementation of the policy.

Over the next couple months, an **IPM school survey** developed by the DEP-PCP will be administered with the assistance of the Department of Education to all Chief School Administrators to identify pest management practices and levels of IPM implementation currently in existence in New Jersey schools. This survey will be directed to those individuals, in an electronic format, who are primarily responsible for overseeing pest management within each school or school district. The results of the survey will assist in the development of training needs to be provided to school personnel to enable a better understanding of IPM and their responsibilities for compliance with this new legislation.

Anyone, who applies pesticides to exterior areas of a school, including athletic fields, is required by NJDEP-PCP regulations to hold a Commercial pesticide applicator license. For anyone who has never been licensed before or who has lost their certification, the procedure for obtaining a commercial license is composed of two steps. Initially, an individual must attend a basic pesticide training course prior to completing a **Core** exam. In addition to the Core exam, one or more "Category" certification exams must be passed. The Category exams needed depend on the type of pest control that will be done. To be eligible to take a Category exam, the applicant must complete a minimum of 40 hours of "on-the-job training" for each category applied for.

For further information on regulations or licensing procedures, as well as school IPM please contact Ann

Waters at (609) 984-5014 or the Pesticide Control program website at [www.pcpnj.com](http://www.pcpnj.com). ▲

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