

Northshore School District

BOARD POLICY

No. 9301

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SCHOOL FACILITIES

Integrated Pest Management

The Northshore School District is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students, staff, and those who use our facilities. As part of this commitment, we follow an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, which addresses the management of vegetation and pests in compliance with federal and state regulations.

IPM is an approach to pest control that utilizes regular monitoring to determine if and when treatments are needed. It employs a combination of strategies and tactics to keep pest numbers low enough to prevent unacceptable damage or annoyance. Biological, cultural, physical, mechanical, educational and chemical methods are used in site-specific combinations to solve pest problems. Chemical controls are used only when needed, and using the least toxic product needed to control the pest.

IPM is an ecological approach to suppressing pest populations (i.e. weeds, insects, plant diseases, etc.) in which alternative pest control measures are considered. Where practical, these alternative measures are implemented before chemical controls are used so that pests are kept at acceptable levels in an effective, economical and environmentally safe way.

If chemical pesticides are used to manage vegetation and / or insect pests, the following guidelines are adhered to:

- No “High Hazard Pesticides” will be used, as defined below and in the 9301P Administrative Procedures.
If a pesticide meets any of the following criteria, it will constitute a “high hazard pesticide” and shall not be used in the Northshore School District: acutely toxic to humans or animals; a known, likely, probable, or possible carcinogen; a nervous system, reproductive, or developmental toxicant or hormone disruptor in humans; persistent in the environment (half-life of 100 days or greater) or has high mobility in soils.
- Whenever possible, pesticide treatments will be conducted at times when school is not in session. When it is necessary to apply pesticides when school is in session, the areas will be clearly marked and isolated from the school population.
- Pesticides used in the district must be pre-approved by the maintenance, repair and operations manager.

- Records of applications and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for approved materials are on file at the Support Services Center.
- Notification and posting of pesticide treatments will be made in accordance with applicable state laws.

Schools shall provide notice, sent home with students and staff annually or upon enrollment or hiring, of the district's pest control policy and regulation, which includes the posting and notice requirements for pesticide application. This information will also be posted on the district website.

To notify parents, staff and other users of school properties of a planned pesticide application, written, phoned or emailed notification will be given to all staff of that school, and students or parents at least 48 hours before the application, and signs will be posted in advance of the application, except when the Director of Maintenance or his/her designee determines that emergency action is required for control of a pest that poses an immediate human health or safety threat, in which case signs will be posted as soon as possible after the application. Additional notification and posting information is detailed in 9301P Administrative Procedures document.

This Integrated Pest Management Policy and Administrative Procedures will be shared with vendors and contractors and included in future Requests for Proposals. NSD staff and any hired vendors and contractors will be required to follow this policy.

Legal References:

RCW 17.21.415 Schools – Policies and methods – Notification – Records – Liability

Adopted by the Board: January 10, 2017