

Policies

Newport Public Schools Administration - Risk Management – Pest Management Policy

No. 2460

Page 1 of 2

It is the policy of Newport Public Schools to control pests in the school environment. Pests such as cockroaches, fleas, fire ants, stinging wasps, termites, and rodents are annoying and can disrupt the learning environment.

Controlling pests in all our buildings will:

- Reduce any potential human health hazard
- Protect against a significant threat to public safety
- Prevent loss or damage to school resources or properties
- Prevent pest from spreading beyond the infested site
- Ensure the quality of life for students, staff and others using our facilities.

While controlling pests, it is the policy of Newport Public Schools to reduce the exposure to pesticides in the school environment. Knowing that the use of pesticides harbors potential for human exposure, and that excessive exposure may result in pesticide poisoning or allergic responses in sensitive individuals, practices to avoid the need for widespread application shall be observed.

The levels of pest control and the methods of pest management to be considered shall be the following:

- Non-chemical prevention of pest populations using methods such as sanitation, exclusion, and cultural methods
- Application of pesticides only “as needed” to correct verified problems
- Selecting the least hazardous methods and materials effective for control of targeted pests
- Precision targeting of pesticides to areas not in contact with, or accessible to, students, faculty and staff
- Utilize dumpsters and other rubbish containers that seal tightly and locate them as far away from the building as practically possible.
- Do not allow debris to collect near doors and other building openings.

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Page 2 of 2

- Maintain a schedule for the cleaning and degreasing of stoves, refrigerators, cabinets, floors, and walls in kitchens, bathrooms, teacher lounges, etc.

Limiting the need for pesticide applications and reducing the potential for human exposure is best accomplished through Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Newport Public Schools will implement IPM with the following guidelines:

- Coordination of the IPM program and maintenance of pest management records shall be the responsibility of the Office of Property Services.
- There shall be full cooperation of administrators, faculty, and staff.
- The School Improvement Team and the School Committee shall be informed of the pest problem, the action taken to date, and the current need for pesticide applications.
- Parental notification of pesticide applications shall be issued in a timely fashion, noting request for student and parent cooperation.
- Incorporation of pesticide storage, use, disposal and practices into the existing chemical hygienic plan by the Director of Property Services.
- The oversight of all pesticide applications to ensure adherence with Newport Public Schools pest management policies shall be the responsibility of the Director of Property Services who shall maintain a schedule and record of treatments.

Reference:

RI Gen. Laws § 23-25-37

History: EB, 1978;

Revised: First Reading: April 9, 2013

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