

Integrated Pest Control Management

Integrated Pest Management

A. Integrated Pest Management is a system of controlling pest in which pests are identified, action thresholds are considered, all possible control options are evaluated and selected controls are implemented. Control options, which include biological, chemical, cultural, manual, and mechanical methods, are used to prevent or remedy unacceptable pest activity or damage. Choice of control options is based on effectiveness, environmental impact, site characteristics, worker/public health and safety, and economics. The goal of an integrated pest management system is to manage pests and the environment to balance benefits of control, costs, public health and environmental quality. Integrated pest management takes into account site-specific factors and takes advantage of all pest management options.

B. Schools shall not apply pesticides unless monitoring as specified in Monitoring for Pest Infestation, Item D, of this guideline indicates pests are present.

Integrated Pest Management Programs for Schools

A. All school shall develop and maintain an integrated pest management program utilizing the best management practices contained in "Integrated Pest Management in Schools and Other Public Institutions, Best Management Practices," published by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

B. At the inception of the integrated pest management program, the school or the contracted pesticide application business should make a survey of the facility and record the structural maintenance, cultural or sanitation practices that need correcting in order to ensure the success of an integrated pest management program. This record shall be updated prior to the beginning of each school year with a follow-up inspection within six (6) months, with the items corrected noted on the record with the date of correction.

C. Pest management objectives and pest threshold levels will vary for each school facility and the occupants of the facility. In order to provide a cross representation of input to the integrated pest management program from the school's occupants and the school community, the Local School Improvement Council as created by West Virginia Code 18-5A-2 may comment on the school's integrated pest management plan.

D. Schools shall file completed integrated pest management plans with the Commissioner for compliance inspection. When any changes are made to the program, they shall submit the revised integrated pest management plan to the Commissioner prior to the initiation of the new plan.

E. Schools or contracted pest control operators shall maintain an Integrated Pest Management file for each school facility. The Integrated Pest Management file shall contain at a minimum the following items or documents:

1. the adopted integrated pest management plan;
2. sanitation and maintenance surveys;
3. monitoring diagrams of the facility;
4. pest surveillance data sheets;
5. notification of Level 3 or Level 4 treatment as specified in the section, Prior Notification;
6. treatment records of the facility, including a floor plan indicating treatment locations;
7. labels of pesticide products used at the facility; and
8. copies of consumer information sheets when available and material safety data sheets.

F. If a school contracts with a pesticide application business for any pesticide applications or monitoring, the business then assumes responsibility for the documents required to be in the Integrated Pest Management file.

G. Upon request, schools or contracted pesticide application business covered by this rule shall provide copies of pesticides labels and consumer information sheets when available or material safety data sheets in the absence of consumer information sheets to employees of the school facility or to parents or legal guardians of the school's students.

H. Exceptions – Areas of schools, such as, but not limited to, greenhouses, nursery plots or agricultural field plantings, utilized for vocational agricultural plots or research are exempt from the requirements of this rule.

Monitoring for Pests

A. Each school shall have a monitoring program. The monitoring program shall include inspecting areas of the facility for pest evidence, entry points, food, water and harborage sites, and estimating pest population levels. Each school shall evaluate the information gained through monitoring to determine the action threshold has been exceeded and what can be done in the way of prevention.

B. Each school shall conduct a monitoring program in suspect areas of their facility on an ongoing basis. Sticky traps designed for cockroaches and other crawling insects shall be placed along wall/floor junctions, on vertical surfaces, behind appliances, in closets, cabinets and shelves, and in other areas where insects have been seen.

C. Components of the monitoring program shall include:

1. a floor plan of the facility showing the number and location of each trap;
2. periodic inspection of each trap at no greater than monthly intervals with the following information recorded on a Pest Surveillance Data Sheet:
 - a. the trap number and its location;

- b. the date checked;
 - c. the trap's condition (either OK or needs to be replaced);
 - d. the numbers and kinds of insects, arthropods, rodents or other pests trapped;
 - e. pest damage or other evidence of pests such as feces, cast skins, or rub marks;
 - f. any need for pest management; and
 - g. the name of the person performing the monitoring activity;
3. removal and disposition of the trap after catch numbers are recorded and identification is confirmed, to prevent counting specimens more than one (1) time and to prevent their use as food by other insects or rodents;
 4. replacement of the traps when the adhesive is no longer tacky.

D. When monitoring indicates the level of pest infestation meets or exceeds the threshold level established for the facility and pests type, the progressive levels of pest control techniques and chemical applications as outlined in Use of Least Hazardous Materials-Re-Entry Intervals of this guideline shall be followed in controlling the pest population. If monitoring indicates that pest populations do not meet or exceed threshold levels, no pesticides shall be applied.

Use of the Least Hazardous Materials – Re-Entry Intervals

A. In an integrated pest management program, persons responsible for pest management should evaluate all possible control options. Control options range for non-chemical methods to least hazardous pesticides to pesticides with a higher degree of risk to human health. In keeping with the legislative mandate for integrated pest management, the licensed pesticide applicator shall, after monitoring for pest infestations, proceed in controlling pests using the least hazardous method that is both practical and effective as outlined in this section.

1. Level 1 – Non-Chemical Control Methods

Pest-preventive measures should be incorporated into existing structures. These preventive measures reduce the need for pesticide applications, and include sanitation, such structural repairs as sealing cracks, and such physical and mechanical controls are screens, traps, and air doors. A school or day care center shall consult with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's best management practices document "Integrated Pest Management in Schools and

Other Public Institutions, Best Management Practices" for integrated pest management strategies for specific sites. Every facility will experience slightly different combinations of pests.

2. Level 2 – Least Hazardous Materials

a. If non-chemical pest management methods alone are ineffective or impractical, it may be necessary for a school to incorporate a pesticide into the integrated pest management program. Although all pesticides are inherently toxic, there are a number of pesticide materials that are determined to be of low impact to occupants because of their organic or biological nature, low toxicity, relative non-volatility, and/or low or non-existent exposure to the occupants due to the manner in which they are applied as baits, gels or dusts into cracks and crevices or wall voids.

b. The least hazardous pesticides are those with a Caution signal word (EPA toxicity categories III and IV) including dusts pyrethrins pyrethroids, boric acid, disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, silica gel, and diatomaceous earth; insecticidal soaps; insect growth regulators; biological control agents – fungi, bacteria, nematodes; or materials formulated as baits in tamper-resistant containers or for crack and crevice or void placement only.

c. There is no re-entry interval for these products due to their level of safety.

3. Level 3 – Crack and Crevice and Spot Treatments

a. Schools shall apply products with an EPA Caution signal word but not listed under Level 2 as crack and crevice or spot treatments.

b. Products applied by these methods provide for reduced, minimal use of liquid materials that may present some, but limited volatility of the pesticide applied. Exposure to occupants is minimal.

c. The re-entry interval for which students and employee shall remain out of the treated area of the facility after the conclusion of treatment is four (4) hours or the time period specified on the pesticide label as registered by the United State Environmental Protection Agency, which ever is greater.

4. Level 4 – Broadcast Applications and Space Treatments

a. Products with a Caution signal word applied by broadcast application or as a space treatment or products with a Warning or Danger signal word applied by any application methods.

b. Products applied by these methods create the greatest opportunities for exposure at the time of application due to drift or volatility. However products applied as fogging agents are usually of low mammalian toxicity and pose little exposure after label re-entry times specified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

c. The re-entry interval for which students and employees are to remain out of the treated area of the facility after the conclusion of treatment is eight (8) hours or the period specified on the label of the pesticide product as registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, which ever is greater, except when the air in the treated area can be purged by the heating cooling and ventilation system, the period of re-entry shall be four (4) hours or the period specified on the label of the pesticide product as registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, whichever is greater.

Prior Notification

A. Employees of Schools

1. If a licensed pesticide application business is contracted to make a Level 3 or Level 4 pesticide application, the licensee shall provide notification to the school administrator 48 hours in advance of the application.

2. All schools shall notify their employees at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the application of pesticides in Levels 3 and 4 as detailed above, including applications made after school hours, over a weekend or during a holiday break.

B. Parents or Legal Guardians of Students of Schools

1. At the beginning of each school year, or at the time a student is enrolled into the school, school administrators shall notify the parents or legal guardians of the right to be informed of the application of Level 3 or 4 pesticides as detailed above.

2. The notification to the parents or legal guardians shall contain a registration form, whereby the parent or legal guardian can request to be notified by the school administrator of the application of Level 3 or 4 pesticides.

3. The administrator of the school shall provide notification to the parent or legal guardian requesting notification at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the application of Level 3 or 4 pesticides, including applications made after school hours, over a weekend or during a holiday break.

Application of Pesticides to Schools

A. Level 3 and Level 4 pesticide applications shall not be made in the presence of students or employees of schools, except for school employees who are certified pesticide applicators. Pesticides may be applied to a localized area of infestation when students or school employees are present if the infestation causes an imminent threat of bodily harm.

B. All pest control methods or practices shall be conducted in conformance to the Use of the Least Hazardous Materials.

C. All pesticides applications made to schools and day care centers shall be applied in accordance with the integrated pest management plan filed with the Commissioner.

D. All pesticides applications shall only be made by certified commercial pesticide applicators or certified public applicators, or registered technicians under the supervision of a certified pesticide applicator as outlined in West Virginia Department of Agriculture Certified Pesticide Applicator Rules, 61 CSR 12A.

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