



Pest Management Information, Practices and Rights

Information

Harmony Hill School is committed to controlling pests in the school environment in order to:

- Reduce any potential human health hazard, and to protect against a significant threat to public safety;
- Prevent loss or damage to school resources, structures or property;
- Prevent pests from spreading in the community, or to plant and animal populations beyond the school site;
- Enhance the quality of life for students, staff, and others.

The level of pest control and the method of pest management considered at Harmony Hill School are as follows:

- Non-Chemical prevention of pest populations using methods such as sanitation, exclusion, and cultural methods (e.g. getting food out of the classroom, moving breakfast programs to the cafeteria).
- 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 the children, faculty and staff.

Harmony Hill School practices Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and its' success is dependent upon:

- Full cooperation of administrators, faculty and all staff including but not limited to facilities / custodial, as well as parents and students.
- Coordination of the IPM program and maintenance of pest management records by the firm of Griggs & Browne and acting Facilities Manager.
- Incorporation of pesticide storage, use, disposal and practices into the existing chemical hygiene plan by the firm of Griggs & Browne and acting Facilities Manager.
- Oversight of all pesticide applications by the acting Facilities Manager.

Ongoing consideration of IPM principles helps prevent unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage. Using IPM principles, the Facilities Manager determines when to control pests, and whether to use physical, cultural or biological means (noting that chemical controls should be used as a last resort). Decisions are depend on current, comprehensive information on the pest and its environment; the best available pest control methods based upon the most economical means; and with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment.

Practices

The Facilities Manager or his/her designee(s):

- Checks for pests, damage or other evidence of infestation on an ongoing and routine basis (Monitoring).
- Incorporates various pest control techniques such as sanitation, exclusion, monitoring traps, etc. to minimize the impact on occupants and other non-target organisms (Safety).
- Provides the necessary outreach and training to ensure that necessary staff has an understanding of the basic concepts of IPM and the role each individual plays in pest management (Education/Communication).
- Provides essential information in determining the effectiveness of pest control procedures to the Education Director (Record keeping and Reporting).
- Proactively incorporates all pest control procedures toward the goal of preventing pest problems (Non-Pesticide Control).
- Selects and uses the least hazardous pesticide when necessary (Pesticide Control). *The application of such pesticides is used in accordance with their label and is subject to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, the Rhode Island Pesticide Control Act and all pertinent state and federal rules and regulations, as well as applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations.*
- Ensures that any individual applying a pesticide has appropriate education and training* in the principles and practices of IPM and uses only pesticides registered by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (Pesticide Applicators). **Note: Appropriate education and training is obtained only by securing Commercial Applicators Certification or Commercial Applicators License.*
- Ensures that no pesticide is applied within any building or on the grounds of any school during regular school hours or during planned activities at any school, except for an emergency application to eliminate an immediate threat to human health (Scheduling). In those circumstances, children and staff are re-located to areas safely away from the application for continued education and activity by the Education Director.
 - Emergency applications for control of any pest is defined by Harmony Hill School as those that poses an immediate human public health or safety threat, such as an application to control stinging insects.
- Ensures that no child or staff is allowed to enter where such application has been made until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.

Notifies the Education Director prior to any pesticide application (emergency or planned) so that staff and parental notification procedures can be initiated.

The Education Director or his/her designee(s):

- Ensures that these practices are reviewed with the Facilities Manager periodically (no less than every two years), including assessment of practice effectiveness and identifying any needed modifications (Program Evaluation/Quality Assurance).

- Oversees implementation of Pest Management Information, Practices and Rights.
- Will notify staff or legal guardians who request individual notification (see Rights).

Rights

- Scheduled and emergency pesticide applications are promptly posted on the Harmony Hill School website (www.harmonyhillschool.org).
- All postings and notifications include the name of the active ingredient in the pesticide being used, the pest(s) being controlled, the specific location of the application site, date of application and the name of the Harmony Hill School individual who is able to provide additional information.
- Harmony Hill School staff and legal guardians may register for individual notification of pesticide applications at each school building.
 - Any individual wishing to be notified in this way must contact the Education Director, who in turn will maintain a list of those individuals and will contact them in such circumstances. Typically, this notification will occur via email or telephone, however alternate means such as sending home notification with the student may occur if arranged.
 - Those individuals will notified at least 24 hours prior to any scheduled pesticide application, and promptly following any emergency application.

Effective Date: 7/1/2006 Approved By: Education Director

Reviewed Spring, 2012 Approved By: Education Director

Revised 12/11/2013 Approved By: Education Director