

CODE: V-G-9

ADOPTED: 10-10-96

REFERENCE: WV Code 61-12-J (1 through 11) and RESA I-Integrated Pest Management, Handbook for Schools

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems to people, property, and the environment. Pesticides can also pose risks to people, property, and the environment. It is therefore the policy of Summers County Schools to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures for control of structural and landscape pests.

PESTS

Pests are populations of living organisms (animals, plants, or micro-organisms) that interfere with the human purposes for an area. Strategies for managing pest populations will be influenced by the pest species and any threat they pose to people, property, or the environment.

PEST MANAGEMENT

Pests will be managed to:

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

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural, or biological means. IPM practitioners depend on current, comprehensive information on the pest and its environment and the best available pest control methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the

environment.

The choice of using a pesticide will be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not acceptable or are not feasible. Cost or staffing considerations alone will not be adequate justification for use of chemical control agents, and selected non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented whenever possible to provide the desired control. It will be the policy of Summers County

Schools to utilize IPM principles to manage pest populations adequately. The full range of alternatives, including no action will be considered.

When it is determined that a pesticide must be used in order to meet important management goals, the least hazardous material will be chosen. The application of pesticides is subject to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act; School Board policies and procedures; EPA regulations; Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations; and state and local regulations.

EDUCATION

Building occupants, the pest manager, and the public will be educated about potential pest problems and the IPM policies and procedures to be used to achieve the desired pest management objectives.

RECORD KEEPING

Records of pesticide used shall be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the WV Pesticide Control Act of 1990 as administered by the WV Department of Agriculture. Records must be current and accurate if IPM is to work. Additionally, Pest Surveillance Data Sheets, which record the number of pest or other indicators of pest populations, are to be maintained to verify the need for treatments.

NOTIFICATION

Summers County Schools takes the responsibility to notify building occupants of upcoming pesticide treatments. Notices will be posted in conspicuous areas in the facility and sent home to parents/guardians at least 24 hours in advance of pesticide applications.

PESTICIDE STORAGE AND PURCHASE

Pesticide purchases will be limited to the amount authorized for available use during the year. Pesticides will be stored and disposed of in accordance with the EPA-registered label directions and state regulations. Pesticides must be stored in a appropriate, secure site not accessible to students, staff or unauthorized personnel.

PESTICIDE APPLICATORS

Pesticide applicators must be educated and trained in the principles and practices of IPM and the use of pesticides approved by this school district and they must follow regulations and label precautions. The WV Department of Agriculture requires that applicators be certified or work under the direct supervision of a certified applicator and comply with the Board's IMP policy and Pest Management Plan.

* Precautionary statements are required on all pesticide labels. Signal words on each label indicate the level of acute toxicity of the pesticide product (see below). The chronic toxicity is not indicated on the label. Every label bears the child hazard warning:

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

Toxicity Category I- DANGER-A taste to a teaspoonful taken by mouth could kill an average-sized adult.

Toxicity Category II-WARNING-A teaspoonful to an ounce taken by mouth could kill an average-sized adult.

Toxicity Category III-CAUTION-An ounce to over a pint taken by mouth could kill an average-sized adult.

Toxicity Category IV-CAUTION-More than one pint taken by mouth could kill an average-sized adult.