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## INTEGRATED VEGETATION AND PEST MANAGEMENT

Bainbridge Island School District will manage vegetation and pests in a manner that: complies with RCW 17.21.415 and which utilizes an ecological approach; minimizes the use of pesticides; minimizes risk to human health and the environment by using no high-hazard pesticides, except in the case of an emergency situation where there is a serious threat to public safety, the environment or public health; and considers community values in establishing standards of maintenance for Bainbridge Island School District properties.

In accordance with Policy 6520 Hazardous Materials, Bainbridge Island School District will follow an Integrated Pest Management program for managing vegetation and pests. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecological approach to suppressing pest populations (i.e. weeds, insects, diseases, etc.) in which alternative pest controls are considered, and where practical, implemented, before chemical controls are used, so that pests are kept at acceptable levels in effective, economical, and environmentally safe ways.

Bainbridge Island School District will make available to staff, parents, and interested members of the community, the district's pest control policies, methods and its posting and notification requirements.

The superintendent or his/her designee is directed to develop procedures to assure that the district complies with the requirements of law regarding pesticide notification, posting and record keeping.

Bainbridge Island School District's procedures for notification will include posting of sites of pesticide applications and record keeping, including an annual summary report of pesticide usage.

### Definitions:

**Pesticide:** US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines a pesticide as any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. It applies to herbicides, fungicides, and various other substances used to control pests.

**Pests:** US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines pests are living organisms which occur where they are not wanted or that cause damage to crops or humans or other animals. EPA's examples of pests are: insects, mice and other animals, unwanted plants (weeds), fungi, and microorganisms such as bacteria and viruses.

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### Legal References:

Chapter 17.21 RCW

Washington pesticide application act

### Management Resources:

*Policy News*, February 2011

Pesticide Notification, Posting and  
Record Keeping

*Policy News*, June 2002

Pesticide Policies Required by July 1st

Adopted: December 9, 1999

Revised: June 14, 2001

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## **INTEGRATED VEGETATION AND PEST MANAGEMENT**

The Bainbridge Island School District will implement Integrated Vegetation and Pest Management (IPM) programs in accordance with the requirements of Policy 6522. Whenever possible all measures will be taken to lower the need for the use of pesticides by implementing effective, economical and environmentally safe strategies to reduce the sources of food, water and shelter for pests in the school facilities and insects, diseases and weeds on school grounds.

The District will comply with RCW 17.21.415 which includes a notification system, record keeping and annual summary of all pesticide applications to school district facilities or grounds.

### **IPM Information for Public View**

All IPM records, including Policy P6522, the IPM notebook, the annual summary report and MSDS's will be available upon request to any interested party by contacting the Superintendent's Office or the Facilities Department. Copies may be obtained by following BISD Procedure 4340: Public access to district records.

### **IPM Information and Notification of Indoor and Outdoor Pest Management Activities**

Notification of indoor and outdoor pest management activities will originate from the Facilities Department. As required by RCW 17.21.415 the Facilities Department will include the following:

1. At the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment, the facilities director and/or principal will provide an annual notification letter to all school district staff, students and parents/guardians regarding pest management policies and methods within the school district. The facilities director may distribute amended written information, as appropriate.
2. Provide written notification, upon request, to all school district staff, students and parents/guardians describing the school's pest control policies and methods.
3. Maintain an IPM hot-line (206) 780-1885, and a listserv with notices titled "NOTICE: PESTICIDE APPLICATION" detailing specific information to interested school district staff and parents/guardians of students pertaining to pesticide applications to a school district facility or grounds.
4. Notifications for specific pesticide applications will be sent out on the Listserv and posted on the IPM hot-line at least 48 hours prior to the application to school facilities or grounds. All notices will at a minimum include:
  - a. "NOTICE: PESTICIDE APPLICATION" as the heading
  - b. Product name of the pesticide to be applied
  - c. Intended date and time of application
  - d. Specific location of application
  - e. Pest to be controlled
  - f. Contact name and phone number
  - g. IPM hot-line phone number

5. The Listserv notice will be posted in a prominent place in the main office of the school facility. A summary of information provided on the Listserv notification will be added to the school's public calendar by the principal/department director's designee. The notice will remain posted for at least 24 hours from the time the application is completed.
6. The notification process will be repeated if the application is not made within 48 hours following the intended date and time stated in the notification.
7. A school will, at the time of application, post notification signs for all pesticide applications made to school facilities unless the application is otherwise required to be posted by a certified applicator under the provisions of RCW 17.21.410 (1)(d).
8. Pre-notification is not required in the case of any emergency application of pesticides to a school district facility or grounds, such as an application to control stinging pests, but full notification will be made as soon as possible after the application, both by Listserv and the IPM hot-line.

### **Posting and Timing Requirements for Facility and Grounds Applications**

Any pesticide application will be timed to minimize adverse effects to human health and beneficial organisms. All pest management activities, including weed management, will be conducted with consideration of effects on classroom activities.

Notices and /or signs are not required for the application of antimicrobial pesticides (substances used to sanitize or disinfect for microbial pests: viruses, bacteria, algae and protozoa).

Notices and/or signs are not required for the placement of insect or rodent baits that are not accessible to children.

The pre-notification requirements of this section do not apply if the facility/grounds are not occupied by students for at least two consecutive days after the application.

The school district will not be held liable for the removal of signs by unauthorized persons. The school district will not be held liable for personal property damage or bodily injury resulting from the signs being removed by unauthorized persons.

#### **For applications made to facilities:**

1. Immediately following the application of a pesticide to school facilities, a sign will be posted at the location of the application and at each primary point of entry to the building.
2. Signs will be at least 8.5 x 11 inches in size.
3. Signs will be printed in colors contrasting to the background.
4. The signs will have the following information:
  - a. **"NOTICE: PESTICIDE APPLICATION"** as the header
  - b. Product name of pesticide applied
  - c. Date and time of application
  - d. Specific location of the application
  - e. Pest controlled

- f. Contact name and phone number
  - g. IPM hot-line phone number: (206) 780-1885
  - h. Signs for applications made by hired pest management contractors will include the contractors name and contact information.
5. Signs shall remain in place for at least 24 hours from the time the application is completed. In the event the pesticide label requires a restricted entry interval greater than 24 hours, the notification sign shall remain in place consistent with the restricted entry interval time as required by the label.

#### For applications made to grounds

1. Immediately following the application of a pesticide to school grounds a sign will be posted at the location of application and at each primary point of entry to the grounds.
2. Signs will be at least 4 x 5 inches in size
3. Signs will be printed in colors contrasting to the background
4. The signs will have the following information:
  - a. **“THIS LANDSCAPE HAS BEEN RECENTLY SPRAYED OR TREATED WITH PESTICIDES BY YOUR SCHOOL”** as the header
  - b. **“FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL”** with a contact name and phone number as the footer
  - c. IPM hot-line phone number: (206) 780-1885
5. Signs for applications made by certified applicators, other than district employees, will include the company name and service mark included between the headline and the footer on a marker placed by a commercial applicator. The applicator's telephone number where information can be obtained about the application shall be included in the footer of the marker. Markers shall be printed in colors contrasting to the background.
6. Signs will remain posted for 24 hours, or longer if required by the label of the pesticide.

#### **IPM Pesticide Criteria and Protocol**

All recognized wetlands and wetland buffer zones on school district property will be considered during the decision-making process per local and state laws and regulations.

High-hazard pesticides are pesticides linked to cancer, nervous system harm, reproductive damage, endocrine disruption, or toxic to fish, wildlife and domestic animals.

To ensure that high hazard pesticides are used only in the case of emergencies as defined below and that less toxic remedies have been tried without a satisfactory result in school district facilities or on school district grounds the following criteria will be followed for all pesticides selection for use:

1. Pesticides will not be:
  - a. classified as highly acutely toxic (Hazard Category I or II) by the Environmental Protection Agency (signal word for Hazard Category I products = DANGER; signal word for Category II products = WARNING);

- b. Pesticide does not have a restricted use (use of the product is not restricted to certified pesticide applicators).
2. Known ingredients and products for pesticides will be evaluated by using the Pesticide Action Network (PAN) Pesticide Database, which is integrated with the US EPA databases, and found to include:
  - a. no possible, probable, known, suspected, or likely carcinogens
  - b. no possible, probable, known, suspected, or likely reproductive toxicants
  - c. no possible, probable, known, suspected, or likely endocrine disrupters
  - d. no possible, probable, known, suspected, or likely or nervous system toxicants (neurotoxic by mode of action-defined as pesticides in the organophosphate, carbamate, pyrethrin, and pyrethroid classes of chemical)
  - e. no products that have a soil half-life greater than 100 days
4. Utilize no pesticide fogging.
5. Use insecticides only in containerized baits or for spot treatments targeted to insect nests or problem areas where a minimal amount of material will be used.

### **Exception**

If the Director of Facilities, or his/her designee determines that there is a need where no product exists that meets all of the requirements listed under IPM Pesticide Criteria and Control, the Director of Facilities, or his/her designee, may authorize the use of a product containing chemicals that meet all of the requirements except that of the half-life. The Director of Facilities, or his/her designee, will report such use to the board, annually. The Bainbridge Island School District and IPM Committee will continue to attempt to find a suitable product that meets all of the requirements.

### **High Hazard Pesticides: Exceptions for Use in Emergencies**

No high-hazard pesticides will be used, except when the facilities director, or his/her designee, has determined that an emergency situation exists where there is a serious threat to public safety, public health, or the environment. The proposed use is a last resort after less toxic remedies have been tried without a satisfactory result. Under these conditions she/he may authorize the use of a High Hazard Pesticide (HHP) in school district facilities or on school district grounds. The Board of Directors will approve at a public meeting any long term use involving numerous, repeated applications of an HHP.

#### Notification, Posting and Related Requirements:

1. All uses of an HHP will be reported to the Board of Directors, parents/guardians, students district staff, members of the IPM Committee, and those on the Listserv, before the application if possible, but if not as soon as after the application and included in the Annual Report. The information distributed will include the specific steps that will be taken to minimize risks to human health and the environment.
2. Signs for the application of an HHP:
  - a. will include the words "**HIGH HAZARD PESTICIDE**"

- b. will include the EPA Acute Hazard Warning Label (“Danger” or “Warning”)
  - c. will include “This product contains a chemical that is possible, probable, known, or suspected: carcinogen, neurotoxin, developmental or reproductive toxin, endocrine disruptor, or is toxic to fish, wildlife and domestic animals” (Select only those that apply to the specific product used, remove those that do not apply)
  - d. will continue with the format approved for the application to either school district facilities or grounds as stated in the section titled “Posting and Timing Requirements for Facility and Grounds Applications”
3. The application will not be made when students and faculty are present unless the threat is imminent and requires immediate action.
  4. The principal of the school, the facilities director, and members of the IPM Committee will be notified immediately after the application.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### Facilities director or designee will:

1. Coordinate the compliance of the IPM program with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and the 6522 policy.
2. Coordinate development of landscape and engineering design criteria for use in facility and landscape development projects.
3. Perform research needed to facilitate implementation of the IPM program.
4. Coordinate vegetation and pest control priorities for each school.
5. Coordinate training of the maintenance & grounds, and other staff members involved in vegetation and pest control activities.
6. Provide building principals with annual notification letter to be provided to all school district staff, students and parents/guardians regarding anticipated vegetation and pest control activities within the school district. The facilities director may distribute amended written information as appropriate.
7. Inform the IPM committee of:
  - a. product recommendations prior to utilizing a pesticide on district property not previously approved for use
  - b. all applicable changes to laws relating to IPM
  - c. distribute to the committee the annual notification letter with anticipated vegetation and pest control activities within the school district
  - d. Listserv information relating to IPM as it is sent by the Community Relations Coordinator
8. Be responsible for final approval of all pesticide applications
9. Have on file a copy of a valid license for all applicators
10. Provide to the school board of directors an annual evaluation of the districts IPM policy including/recommendation for modifications of the IPM program and practices.

#### Maintenance Lead will:

1. monitor and evaluate application methods, timing, scale of application and elements of exposure

2. will only use products that have previously met the IPM Pesticide Criteria and Protocol
3. make every effort to apply fertilizers to areas where staff, students, coaches or others will not be present for at least 24 hours. Fertilizers and soil amendments used by the district will not include herbicides or heavy metals, and preferably will use organic products.

Building principals will:

1. At the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment, the principle will distribute the annual notification letter, provided by the facilities director, to all school district staff, students and parents/guardians regarding anticipated vegetation and pest control activities within the school district.

IPM Committee:

2. IPM Committee will include:
  - a. the facilities director
  - b. the maintenance lead
  - c. grounds staff representative
  - d. minimum of 1 parent/guardian representative
  - e. minimum of 1 community representative
2. The IPM committee will select a chairperson or co-chairpersons
3. The IPM committee will serve as an advisory group
4. The IPM committee will research alternatives, and suggest resources
5. The IPM committee will review current policies and procedures and make recommendations for on-going practices using the following criteria:
  - a. principles of IPM
  - b. need for control of the vegetation or pest management problem
  - c. whether the IPM practice minimizes impacts on human health and the environment, will be effective in the long-term, and is cost effective
6. The IPM committee will assist the district in involving community members & school PTO's in IPM practices, such as weed control.
7. Each member of the committee will sign up for the District Listserv.