Complying with Maine's School IPM Requirements

All public and private schools serving any grades K-12 are required to do the following (applicable to all buildings and grounds including sports fields, gardens and greenhouses):

- Adopt a school board-approved Integrated Pest Management policy.
- Designate a school employee as the IPM Coordinator to oversee and approve pest management activities.
- Keep IPM and pesticide application records for two years.
- Notify parents and staff five days in advance of higher-risk pesticide applications.
- Post required notices two days before pesticide applications.
- Allow only people with a valid pesticide applicator's license to apply pesticides on school properties.

Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
Phone: 207-287-2731
Fax: 207-287-7548
www.thinkfirstspraylast.org

For More Information:

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

School IPM Program
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
Phone: 207-287-7616
Fax: 207-287-7548
E-mail: kathy.murray@maine.gov

www.maine.gov/schoolipm

University of Maine Cooperative Extension
Pest Management Office
491 College Avenue
Orono, ME 04473
Phone: 1-800-287-0279
Fax: 207-581-3881
http://extension.umaine.edu/ipm/

Northeastern IPM Center

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Pests, Pesticides and Maine Schools– What You Need to Know

Integrated Pest Management

Best Practices for Healthy, Well-Managed School Buildings and Grounds

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
SCHOOL IPM PROGRAM

Pesticide Use

Is your school doing all it can to minimize health risks from pests and pesticides?

State pesticide regulations are enforced to safeguard the health and safety of students and staff at all Maine's K-12 schools. Read Maine's pesticide regulations at

www.maine.gov/schoolipm

Anyone applying pesticides on properties owned or used by schools must be licensed by the Maine Board of Pesticides Control.

Pesticides include:

- Insect sprays, granules and bombs
- Mouse/rat poisons
- Ant cups with insecticidal bait
- Plant disease products
- Weed killers
- Any product applied to control pests

Not pesticides:

- Mouse and rat traps with no poison
- Living organisms such as nematodes used for grub control

Photo credit: Mike Merchant, Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Why Use IPM?

Academic Achievement—Healthy environments have better student and staff attendance and enhanced academic performance.[1]

Asthma—Maine has one of the highest asthma rates in the U.S. More than one in ten Maine children has asthma[2]. Environmental triggers of asthma in schools include common pests such as mice and cockroaches. Pesticides can also trigger asthma.

Disease Vectors—Rodents and other pests can carry disease, and bee stings can cause severe allergic reactions and even death. IPM can reduce pest complaints by 78% to 90% with no long-term increase in costs.[3]

Children & Pesticides—Children, because they are still growing, are at greater risk of harm from pesticide exposure compared to adults.

Teacher Retention—A recent study showed schools with good environmental conditions have 5% lower teacher turnover rates when compared with schools with poor building environmental quality.[4]

[1] Creating Healthy Indoor Environments in Schools: Improved Academic Performance. http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/student_performance/references_html. accessed 12/10/14.
[2] Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/population-health/mat/asthma-information/asthma-in-maine.htm. accessed 12/19/2014
[3] Gouge, D.H., et.al. 2006. Use of an implementation model and diffusion process for establishing Integrated Pest Management in Arizona schools. *American Entomologist* 52(3): 190-196.
[4] Paladino and Company, Inc. 2005. *Washington High Performance School Buildings: Report to the Legislature.* 67 pp.

Need Help?

Start or improve your IPM program and comply with regulations—we can help!

For forms, training materials, guidelines and more see our website:

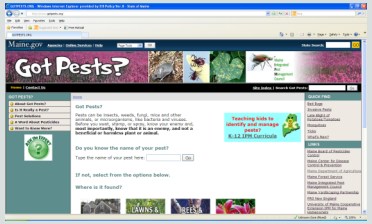
www.maine.gov/schoolipm

Or contact us at:
Phone: (207) 287-7616
E-mail: kathy.murray@maine.gov

For Pest Identification:

University of Maine
Cooperative Extension
Pest Management Office
http://extension.umaine.edu/ipm/
1-800-287-0279

-or-



Identify common pests and find solutions at:
www.gotpests.org