

Columbia-Brazoria ISD

Integrated Pest Management Policy Statement

Pest Management Policy

Structural and landscape pests and the pesticides used to control them can pose significant problems for people, property and the environment. The District shall incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures for control of structural and landscape pests.

Pests

Pests are populations of animals, plants or microorganisms that interfere with school use. Strategies for managing pest populations are determined by the pest species involved and the threat it poses to people, property or the environment.

IPM focuses on preventing or surprising pests using tactics that minimize the impact of control activities on the health of humans and of non-target organisms.

Pest Management

The District will appoint an IPM coordinator to develop and implement a pest management program. Objectives of the IPM program will include:

1. Elimination of threats by pests to the health and safety of students, staff or the public.
2. Prevention of loss or damage by pests to school structures or property.
3. Protection of environmental quality inside and outside school buildings.
4. Enhancement of the quality of life for students, staff and the public.

Integrated Pest Management Procedures

IPM procedures shall determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, sanitation, horticultural or biological controls. IPM practitioners depend on current, comprehensive information about the pest, its environment and pest control methods. The intended goal of IPM principles is control of unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage using the most economical means while creating the fewest possible hazards for people, property and the environment.

IPM practitioners choose to use pesticides only after determining that no other control option is acceptable or feasible. The District will use IPM principles to manage pest populations, in every case considering the full range of alternatives, including taking no action. If pesticides must be used, the

District will choose the least toxic material available and will comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations governing pesticide storage, transportation and use.

Education

At the beginning of each school year, an email will be sent, district-wide to teachers, staff and administrators about potential pest problems and the IPM policies and procedures to be used to achieve the desired pest management objectives.

Record Keeping

The District will maintain records of pesticide use on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency. The District will verify treatment needs using pest sightings logs or other means to record numbers of pest or other population indicators.

Notification

The District will notify the school staff and students of upcoming pesticide treatments by notices posted at schools and sent home to parents who wish to be informed in advance of pesticide applications.

Pesticide Storage and Purchase

Pesticides will be stored and disposed of according to the EPA-registered label directions and state regulations. Pesticides will be stored in an appropriate, secure, site not accessible to students or unauthorized personnel.

Pesticide Applications

Pesticide applicators must be educated about the principles and trained in the practices of IPM and in the use of pesticides approved by the District, and they must follow regulations and label precautions for pesticide use. Applicators shall be certified and must comply with the District's IPM policy and pest management plan. Maintenance personnel who occasionally apply pesticides will be trained by the IPM coordinator according to incidental use regulations. Non-licensed personnel, including teachers and principals, are not authorized to apply any types of pesticides, including but not limited to: herbicides, insecticides, avicides, rodenticides and fungicides.

If you have any questions, or need additional details regarding CBISD's IPM policy, please reach out to Justen Williams, Director of Maintenance, 979-799-1800, justen.williams@cbisd.com

