Module 3 School IPM Rules

See class handouts

School IPM Law

IPM required since 1991; updated 2007

6-hour basic and recurring CEU training

Least-toxic methods mandated by law

Official Definition for IPM

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)—
  - A pest management strategy that relies on multiple pest control tactics,
  - including the judicious use of pesticides,
  - informed by accurate identification and scientific knowledge of pests,
  - reliable monitoring methods to assess pest presence,
  - preventative measures to avoid pest infestations, and
  - thresholds to determine when corrective control measures are needed.

TAC TITLE 4, PART 1, CHAPTER 7, SUBCHAPTER H, DIVISION 7

Integrated Pest Management Program
for School Districts

Responsibility of School Districts to Adopt an IPM Program RULE §7.201

Each school district shall establish, implement, and maintain an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

An IPM program is a regular set of procedures for preventing and managing pest problems using an integrated pest management strategy, as defined in §7.114 of this title (relating to Definition of Terms).

The school district is responsible for each IPM Coordinator's compliance with these regulations.

The IPM program shall contain these essential elements:

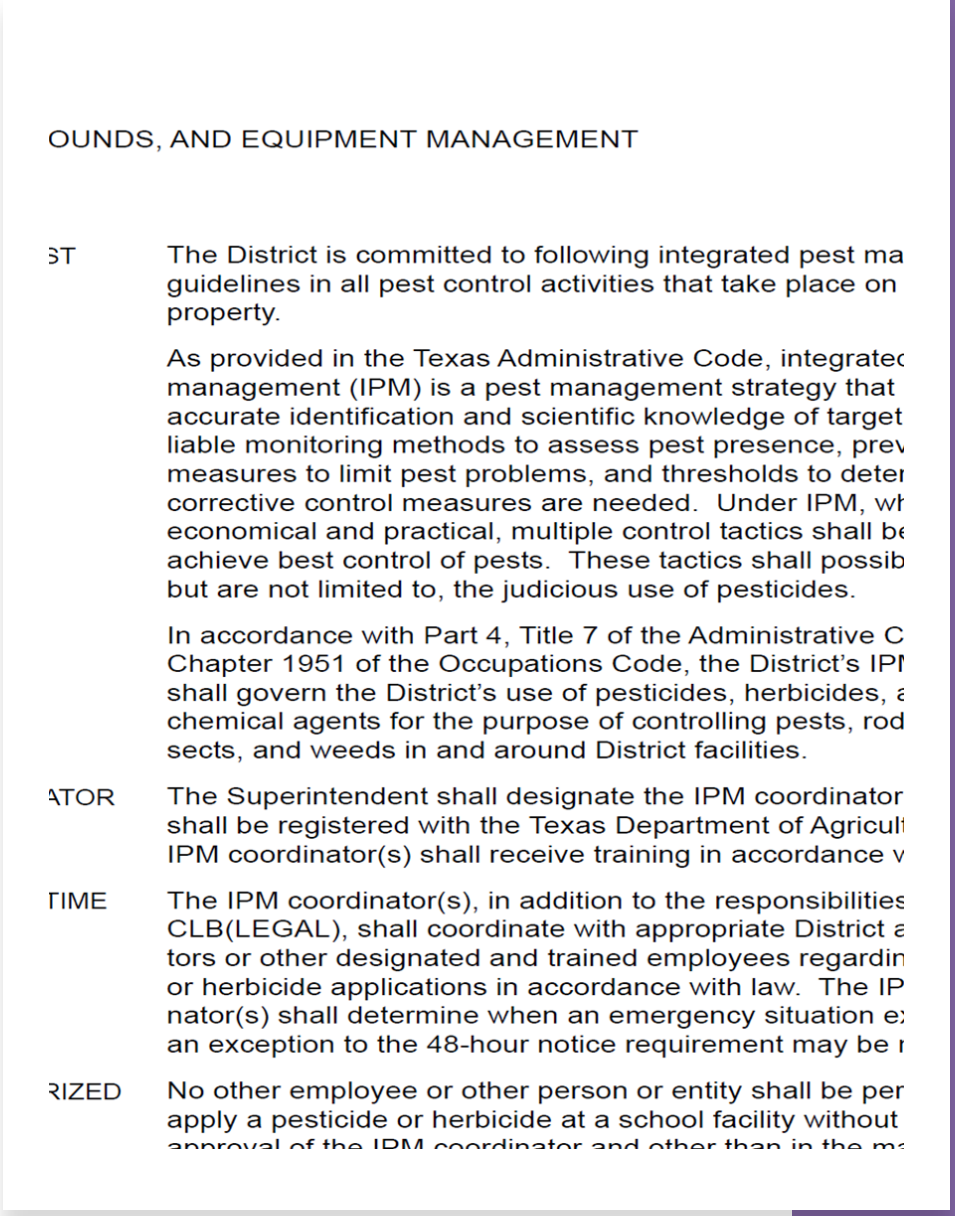
- a school board approved IPM policy
- a monitoring program to determine when pests are present and when pest problems are severe enough to justify corrective action;
- the preferential use of lower risk pesticides and the use of non-chemical management strategies to control pests, rodents, insects and weeds;
- a system for keeping records of facility inspection reports, pest-related work orders, pest control service reports, pesticide applications, and pesticide complaints;
- a plan for educating and informing school district employees about their roles in the IPM program; and
- written guidelines that identify thresholds for when pest control actions are justified.

IPM Coordinator Appointment

- Each school district superintendent shall appoint an IPM Coordinator(s) to implement the school district's IPM program.
- Not later than 90 days after the superintendent designates or replaces an IPM Coordinator(s), the school district must report to the Department the newly appointed coordinator's name, address, telephone number, email address and the effective date of the appointment.
- A school district that appoints more than one IPM Coordinator shall designate a Responsible IPM Coordinator who will have overall responsibility for the IPM program and provides oversight of subordinate IPM Coordinators regarding IPM program decisions.

IPM policy

- a school board approved IPM policy, stating the school district's commitment to follow integrated pest management guidelines in all pest control activities that take place on school district property. The IPM policy statement shall include:
  - a definition of IPM consistent with this section;
  - a reference to Texas laws and rules governing pesticide use and IPM in public schools
  - information about who can apply pesticides on school district property; and
  - information about designating, registering, and required training for the school district's IPM Coordinator. The Superintendent and IPM Coordinator will maintain a copy of the policy.



OUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT

ST The District is committed to following integrated pest ma guidelines in all pest control activities that take place on property.

As provided in the Texas Administrative Code, integratec management (IPM) is a pest management strategy that accurate identification and scientific knowledge of target liable monitoring methods to assess pest presence, prev measures to limit pest problems, and thresholds to deter corrective control measures are needed. Under IPM, wh economical and practical, multiple control tactics shall be achieve best control of pests. These tactics shall possib but are not limited to, the judicious use of pesticides.

In accordance with Part 4, Title 7 of the Administrative C Chapter 1951 of the Occupations Code, the District's IPM shall govern the District's use of pesticides, herbicides, a chemical agents for the purpose of controlling pests, rod sects, and weeds in and around District facilities.

ATOR The Superintendent shall designate the IPM coordinator shall be registered with the Texas Department of Agricult IPM coordinator(s) shall receive training in accordance v

TIME The IPM coordinator(s), in addition to the responsibilities CLB(LEGAL), shall coordinate with appropriate District a tors or other designated and trained employees regardin or herbicide applications in accordance with law. The IP nator(s) shall determine when an emergency situation ex an exception to the 48-hour notice requirement may be r

RIZED No other employee or other person or entity shall be per apply a pesticide or herbicide at a school facility without approval of the IPM coordinator and other than in the ma

Responsibility of School Districts to Adopt an IPM Program

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A school district that appoints more than one IPM Coordinator shall designate a Responsible IPM Coordinator who will have overall responsibility for the IPM program and provides oversight of subordinate IPM Coordinators regarding IPM program decisions.

Responsibility of School Districts to Adopt an IPM Program

Each school district that engages in pest control activities must employ or contract with a licensed applicator, who may, if an employee, also serve as the IPM Coordinator.

Each school district shall prior to or by the first week of school attendance, ensure that a procedure is in place to provide prior notification of pesticide applications in accordance with this chapter. Individuals who request in writing to be notified of pesticide applications may be notified by telephonic, written or electronic methods.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE IPM COORDINATOR RULE §7.202

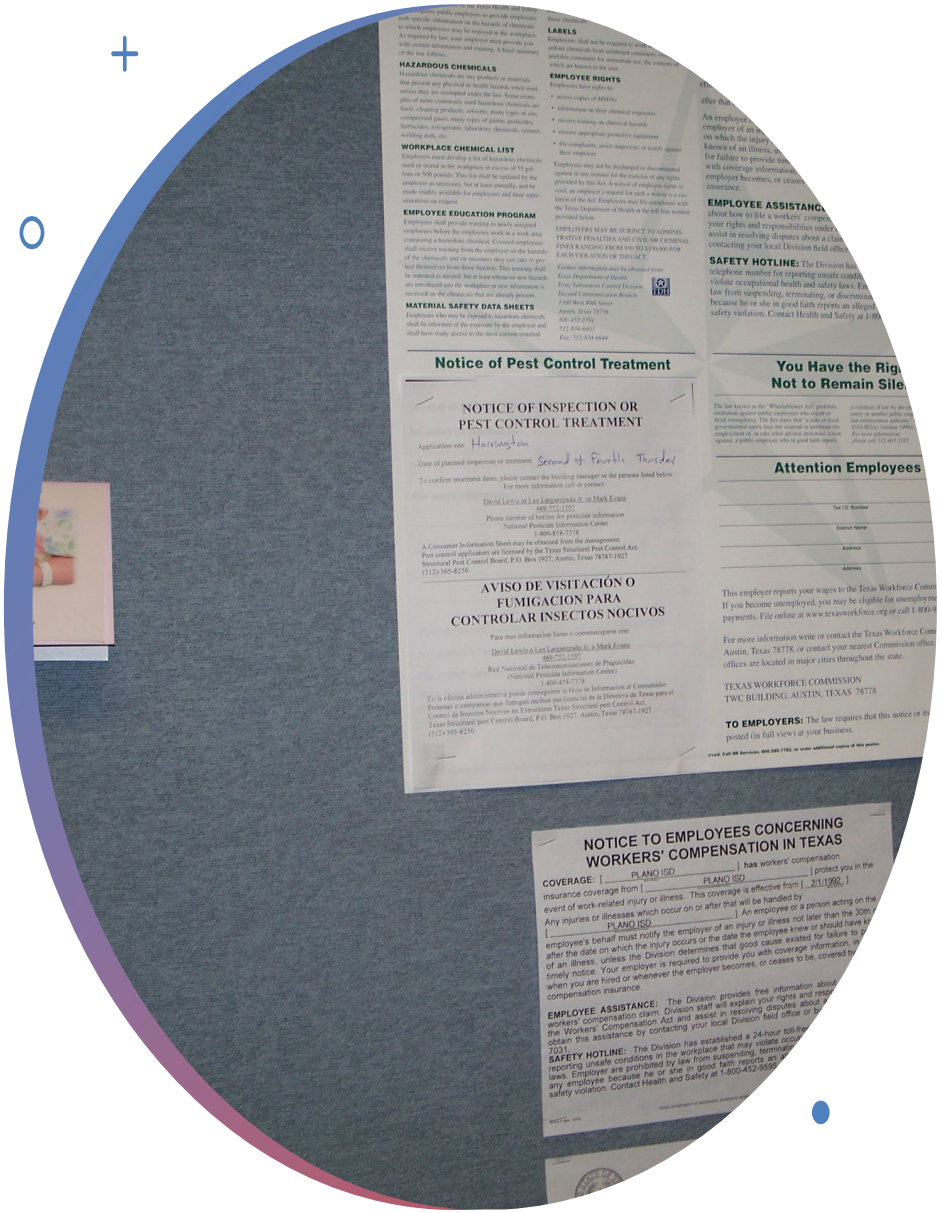
The IPM Coordinator(s) shall be responsible for implementation of the school district IPM Program

The IPM Coordinator(s) shall:

- Successfully complete a Department-approved IPM Coordinator training course within six months of appointment;
- obtain at least six hours of Department-approved IPM continuing education units (CEU) every three years, No approved course may be repeated for credit within the same three-year period. One of the six CEUs must be related to laws and regulations specific to IPM programs in schools. IPM Coordinators may satisfy the CEU requirements through one or more of the following methods:
- If the IPM Coordinator is also a licensed applicator, the CEUs obtained for the license under §7.134 of this title (relating to Continuing Education Requirements for Certified Applicators) will count towards the six hours of IPM CEUs.
- Following the three-year effective CEU period, IPM Coordinators must maintain certificates of completion for one additional calendar year (period through December 31). The certificates are subject to inspection by the Department at any time upon request.

Coordinator Responsibility

- Coordination of pest management personnel
- Ensure that all school employees who perform pest control, including those employees authorized to perform incidental use applications
  - have the necessary training, e
  - equipped with the appropriate personal protective equipment,
  - **have the necessary licenses** for their pest management responsibilities



Coordinator Responsibility

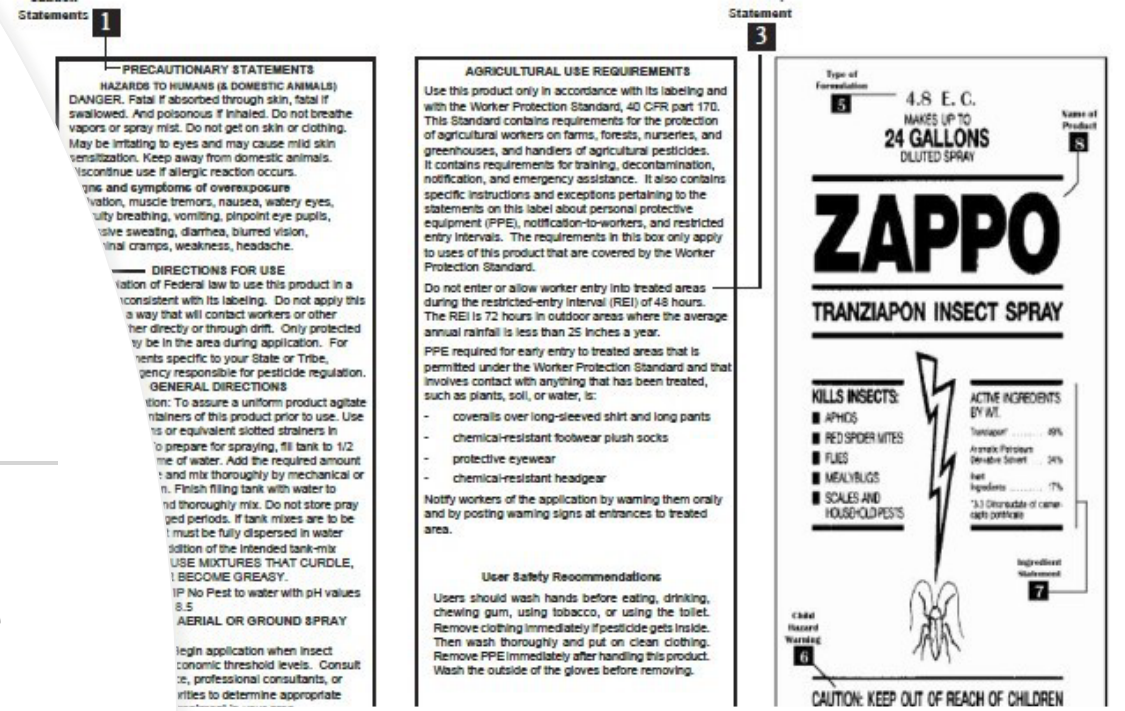
- Ensuring that all IPM program records, including:
  - Incidental use training records
  - Pest-related work orders
  - Pest control service reports
  - Pesticide applications
  - Pesticide complaints
- Are maintained for a period of two years and are made available to a Department inspector upon request
  - Two previous calendar years

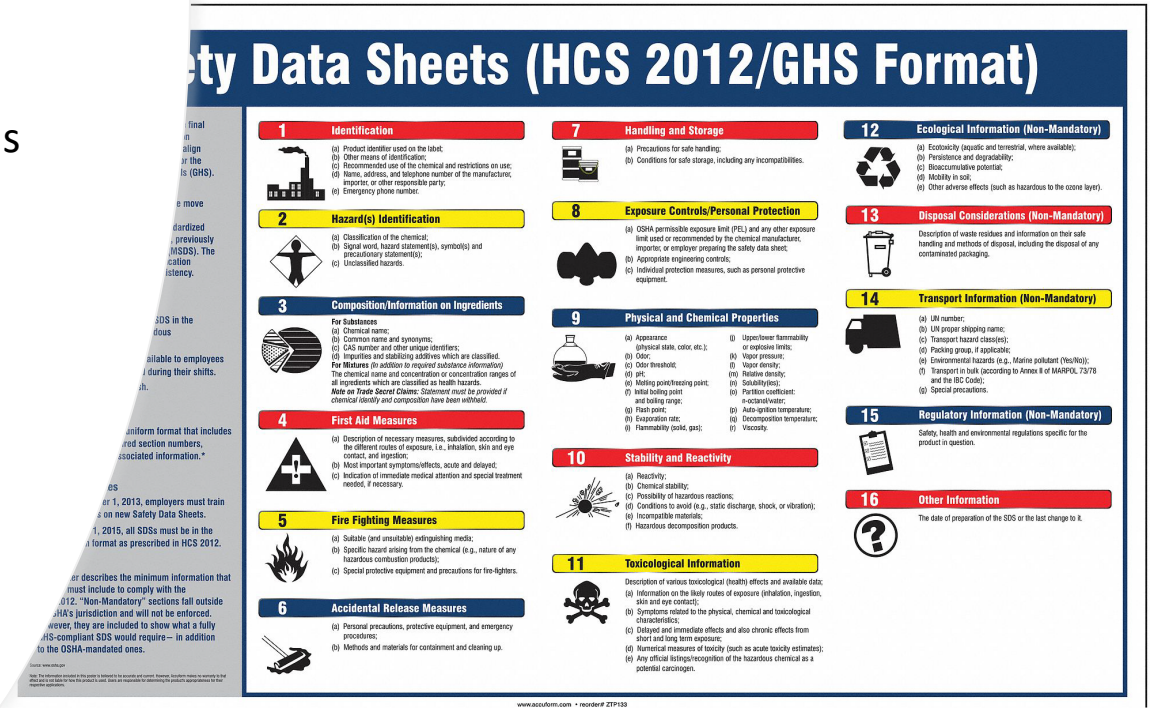
Coordinator Responsibility

working with district administrators to ensure that all pest control proposal specifications for outside contractors are compatible with IPM principles, and that contractors work under the guidelines of the school district's IPM policy

Coordinator Responsibility

- Ensure that all pesticides used on school district property follow the school district's IPM program
- Have current pesticide labels
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
- available for interested individuals upon request;





TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

ENTO-079
12/17

Human Lice

Blayne Reed and Janet Hurley*

Historically, human lice have been associated with wars, crowded living conditions, and poverty. Lice do flourish under these circumstances; however, they can affect people across all ages and socioeconomic status. This is particularly true of head lice, which are most common in preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school children. The severity of the louse problem in this group has increased as a result of their growing resistance to common chemical control measures. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2017), children aged 3 to 11 suffer 6 to 12 million lice infestations each year in the United States. Though head lice cannot jump or fly, they easily move from one person to another when they are in close contact or share items such as hair brushes, combs, towels, or hats. Lice spread when people store personal items in shared lockers or use a head rest previously used by an infested person—most commonly they transfer by direct head to head contact.

Lice thrive at 82 to 86 degrees F, in favorable humidity, and with a ready food source. They will not leave a host unless they are dislodged or the host's body temperature changes significantly. Lice cannot survive off a host for more than about 24 hours. Lice will die in rugs, carpets, school buses or other non-host environments. The types of lice discussed herein, pierce the skin and feed on blood and can cause persistent skin irritation and itching, leading to restlessness and loss of sleep. Lice are not dangerous, nor do they transmit disease. However, the skin may become sensitized to lice saliva and feces—scratching may open the skin and lead to secondary infections.

*Extension Agent–IPM, and Extension Program Specialist I, Statewide School IPM

There are three kinds of human lice. Their common names describe their preferred feeding sites: head lice (*Pediculus humanus capitis*); body lice (*Pediculus humanus humanus*); and pubic or crab lice (Pthirus pubis). Adult lice are flat, wingless, greyish to brown insects that are 1.5 to 3 mm long. Their legs have claws for clinging to hair shafts, however, human lice do not survive on pets or domestic animals.

Head lice

Adult head lice are 2 to 3 mm long, and their abdomen is distinctly longer than wide. They vary from dirty-white to greyish-black, but usually blend in with the hair color

Figure 1. The head louse. Source: Clay Scherer

Figure 2. Head lice are small. Source: Clay Scherer

Coordinator Responsibility

Oversee and implement that portion of the plan that ensures that school district administrators and relevant school district personnel are provided opportunities to be informed and educated about their roles in the IPM program, reporting, and notification procedures

Coordinator Responsibility

pesticide applications, including the approval of emergency applications at buildings and on school district grounds, are conducted in accordance with Division 7 of this subchapter; and

maintaining a current copy of the school district's IPM policy and making available to a Department inspector upon request

§7.203 Responsibilities of Certified Applicators and Licensed Technicians

The commercial or noncommercial certified applicator or licensed technician shall:

1) apply only EPA labeled pesticides, appropriate for the target pest, except as provided in Division 7 of this subchapter (relating to Integrated Pest Management Program for School Districts);
2) provide the structural pest management needs of the school district by following the school district's IPM program and these regulations;
3) **obtain written approval from the IPM Coordinator(s) for the use of pesticides in accordance with Division 7;**

§7.203 Responsibilities of Certified Applicators and Licensed Technicians

4) handle and forward to the IPM Coordinator(s) records of IPM activities, any complaints relating to pest problems, and pesticide use;
5) **ensure that pesticide use records are forwarded to the IPM Coordinator within two (2) business days** or in a time frame as agreed to by the IPM Coordinator;
6) consult with the IPM Coordinator(s) concerning the use of control measures in buildings and grounds; and
7) ensure that all pest control activities are consistent with the school district's IPM program and IPM policy.

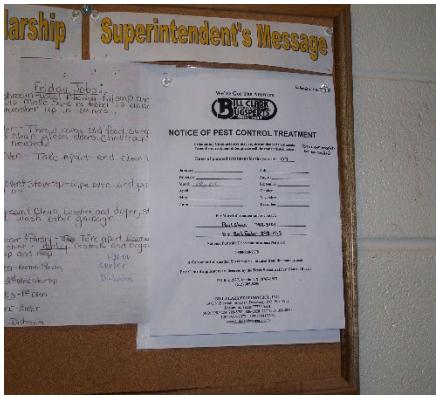
§7.204 Pesticide Use in School Districts

All pesticides used by school districts must be registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Department of Agriculture, with the exception of those pesticides that have been exempted from registration by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), Section 25(b).

All pesticides used by school districts must also bear a label as required by FIFRA and Chapter 76 of the Texas Agriculture Code. Pesticides intended and labeled for use on humans are exempt from this section.

§7.204 Pesticide use must also meet the following requirements:

1) Pest control signs shall be posted at least 48 hours prior to a pesticide application inside school district buildings as provided for under §7.148 of this title (relating to Responsibilities of Unlicensed Persons for Posting and Notification).
2) For **outdoor applications** made on school district grounds, the treated area **must be identified at all entry points with a sign**, or must be secured using a locking device, a fence or other practical barrier such as commercially available barrier caution tape or periodically monitored to keep students out of the treated area until the allowed reentry time.
3) Pesticides used on school district property shall be mixed outside of student occupied areas of buildings and grounds.



§7.204 Pesticide use must also meet the following requirements:

4) The **use of non-pesticide control measures, non-pesticide monitoring tools and mechanical devices, such as glue boards and traps** as permitted in accordance with Division 7 of this subchapter (relating to Integrated Pest Management Program for School Districts), **are exempt from posting requirements.** The use of non-pesticide tools and devices by unlicensed school district personnel, for monitoring purposes, shall be permitted. **Monitoring by unlicensed school district personnel shall be done only as directed, under the supervision of the IPM Coordinator.**
5) Pesticide applications shall not be made to outdoor school grounds if such an application will expose students to physical drift of pesticide spray particles. Reasonable preventive measures shall be taken to avoid the potential of drift to occur.

§7.204 Pesticide Use in Schools

6) School districts are allowed to apply the following pesticides to control pests, rodents, insects and weeds at school buildings, grounds, or other facilities in accordance with the approval for use and restrictions listed for each category:

Enter Green, Yellow and Red

Green Category Pesticides.

i. Definition: A pesticide will be designated as a Green Category pesticide if it meets the following criteria:

ii. it contains a CAUTION signal word on the product label, unless no signal word is required to appear on the product label as determined by EPA; and

iii. it consists of the active ingredient boric acid; disodium octoborate tetrahydrate or related boron compounds; silica gel; diatomaceous earth; or belongs to the class of pesticides that are insect growth regulators; microbe-based insecticides; botanical insecticides containing no more than 5% synergist (and does not include synthetic pyrethroids); biological (living) control agents; pesticidal soaps; natural or synthetic horticultural oils; or insect and rodent baits in tamper-resistant containers, or for crack-and-crevice use only;

Green Category Restrictions

Approval for Use: Green Category pesticides do not require prior written approval. These pesticides may be applied at the licensee's discretion under the guidelines of the school district IPM program.

(I) Green Category pesticides may be applied indoors if students are not present and are not expected to be present in the room or treated area at the time of application. Reentry into the treated area is permitted as soon as the application is complete, the pesticide spray has dried, or the reentry interval specified on the pesticide label has expired, whichever interval is longer.

(II) Green Category pesticides may be applied outdoors if students are not present within ten (10) feet of the application site at the time of treatment. Students are allowed reentry into the treated area as soon as the application is complete, the pesticide spray has dried or the reentry interval specified on the pesticide label has expired, whichever interval is longer.

Yellow Category Pesticides

Definition: A pesticide will be designated as a Yellow Category pesticide if it meets the following criteria:

(I) it contains a CAUTION signal word on the product label, unless no signal word is required to appear on the product label as determined by EPA; and

(II) it does not meet the criteria to be designated as a Green Category pesticide under subparagraph (A)(i) of this paragraph.

Approval for Use: Yellow Category pesticides require written approval from the certified applicator prior to their use. Yellow Category pesticide approvals shall have a duration of no longer than six (6) months or six (6) applications per site, whichever occurs first.

Yellow Category – Restrictions

I. Yellow Category pesticides may be applied indoors if students are not present or not expected to be present in the room or treated area within the next four (4) hours following the application, or until the reentry interval specified on the pesticide label has expired, whichever interval is longer.

II. Yellow Category pesticides may be applied outdoors if students are not present or not expected to be present within ten (10) feet of application site and the area is secured and reentry is in accordance with this section for no less than four (4) hours, or until the reentry interval specified on the pesticide label has expired, whichever interval is longer.

III. The treated **area must be clearly posted at all entry points** with a sign, or secured using a locking device, a fence or other practical barrier such as commercially available barrier caution tape, or periodically monitored to keep students out of the treated area until the allowed reentry time.

Red Category Pesticides

Definition: A pesticide will be designated as a Red Category Pesticide if it meets the following criteria:

i. it contains a WARNING or DANGER signal word on the product label; and

ii. it contains an active ingredient that has been designated as a restricted use pesticide, a state-limited-use pesticide or a regulated herbicide; and it does not meet the criteria to be designated as a Green Category pesticide under subparagraph (A)(i) of this paragraph, or a Yellow Category pesticide under subparagraph (B)(i) of this paragraph.

Approval for Use: Prior to the application, licensees must provide written justification to the IPM Coordinator for the use of the Red Category pesticide and must obtain signed approval for the application from the IPM Coordinator. Red Category pesticide approvals shall have a duration of no longer than three (3) months or three (3) applications per site, whichever occurs first.

Red Category Restrictions

I. Red Category pesticides may be applied indoors if students are not present and are not expected to be present in the room or treated area within eight (8) hours following the application, or until the reentry interval specified on the pesticide label has expired, whichever interval is longer.

II. Red Category pesticides may be applied outdoors if students are not present within twenty-five (25) feet of the application site, the area is secured in accordance with this section, and reentry by students is prohibited for no less than eight (8) hours, or until the reentry interval specified on the pesticide label has expired, whichever interval is longer.

III. The treated area must be clearly posted at all entry points with a sign, or secured using a locking device, a fence or other practical barrier such as commercially available barrier caution tape, or periodically monitored to keep students out of the treated area until the allowed reentry time.

PESTICIDE APPLICATION APPROVAL FORM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Description of pest problem: _____

Justification for use: _____

Application Site: _____

Name of Pesticide: _____

EPA Registration #: _____

Category of Pesticide ☐ **Green** ☐ **Yellow** ☐ **Red**

Green Category pesticides may be used at the discretion of the licensee. Approval may or may not be necessary, depending on School IPM Policy
Use of **Yellow Category** pesticides requires written approval from the Certified Applicator. A copy of this approval must be sent to the IPM Coordinator within two (2) business days of application. **Yellow Category** approvals shall have duration of no longer than six (6) months or six (6) applications per site, whichever occurs first.

Use of **Red Category** pesticides requires written approval from the IPM Coordinator prior to application. **Red Category** approvals shall have a duration of no longer than three (3) months or three (3) applications per site, whichever is first.

If Incidental Use: _____ Date: _____
(Staff Member)

Approval of Certified Applicator: _____ Date: _____
(If applicable)

Approval of IPM Coordinator: _____ Date: _____
(If applicable)

Forwarded to: IPM Coordinator Date: _____

Approvals shall be kept by the Responsible IPM Coordinator with the pesticide use records for a minimum of two (2) years after last application.

Justification Form

- Be sure that you obtain justification forms for indoor and outdoor use
- This is the #1 violation when TDA inspects schools

INCIDENTAL USE FOR SCHOOLS

RULE §7.205

Incidental Use For Schools Fact Sheet

The Incidental Use For Schools Fact Sheet must be provided during pesticide instruction and training by the IPM Coordinator to each employee of the school district whose primary duty is not pest control, and whose work may include tasks subject to the exception. The IPM Coordinator must keep records of all the training conducted annually.

Primary duty is defined as a job duty that is part of a written job description or is a regularly assigned task of the employee.

Pest control use records for all incidental pesticide use application, including the reason for application and justification for emergency, must be maintained by the IPM Coordinator for a period of two years.

Incidental pesticide use in school districts is limited to insecticides that are Green and Yellow Category pesticides.

The Incidental Use For Schools Fact Sheet must contain the following text: "This fact sheet must be distributed to all employees of school districts who apply general use Green Category pesticides (or Yellow Category pesticides specific to ant, bee and wasp applications) and are not licensed by the Texas Department of Agriculture. The fact sheet, instruction and training must be provided upon initial employment by the school district's IPM Coordinator and thereafter must be available as needed. These general use Green Category pesticides include insecticides only and involve applications made both inside and outside of structures. Incidental Use is not intended for long term or extensive pest control measures, rather emergency situations where safety of students or workers is at risk and there is insufficient time to contact a licensed applicator. Where long term pest control is required, a trained, licensed person is to make the applications. Examples of Incidental Use situations are treating fire ants in a transformer box or treatments for bees or wasps as a non-routine application to protect children or personnel. Incidental Use is defined as site-specific and incidental to the employee's primary duties. If it is part of the employee's primary duty to make applications of pesticides, that employee is required by law to obtain a Texas Department of Agriculture license, depending on the location and type of application. In all cases of incidental use, the employee should use the least hazardous, effective method of controlling pests. All applications to schools or school grounds must be in compliance with school district IPM policies. If chemicals are utilized, they must be applied in strict accordance with manufacturer labels of products being used. Applications made inconsistent with the Department's law and regulations, or applications made inconsistent with the label requirements of the product may result in an enforcement action being taken against the individual and/or the certified applicator or technician responsible. Incidental pesticide use in schools is regulated by the Texas Department of Agriculture. If you have any questions or comments, contact the Texas Department of Agriculture, phone number 1-866-918-4481 or P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711-2847."

Take Time to Educate Yourself

- Search your district's website using terms like your ISD or CISD name, plus "school board policy." Once you find the board policy manual—formerly known as the Blue Book—you can browse the sections to find policy CLB, which governs pesticide application in schools.
- This policy explains who can apply pesticides, defines IPM, and designates who is in charge—usually the superintendent.
- You'll find two parts: the legal framework and the local framework.
- It's critical that your local policy document is current—dated 2023 or later. If your policy is older, such as from 2019 or before, your district is out of compliance.
- Keeping this policy up to date helps protect everyone and ensures that only licensed individuals apply pesticides.
- Following these guidelines is how we maintain a safe and effective IPM program and avoid regulatory issues.