

**HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT**

The Apple Creek School Board believes that structural and landscape pests can pose significant hazards to people, property and the environment. Pests are living organisms such as plants, animals, or microorganisms that interfere with human uses for the school site. Strategies for managing pest populations will be influenced by the pest species and the degree to which that population poses a threat to people, property or the environment. Further, the Board also believes that pesticides can also pose hazards to people, property and the environment. The intent of this policy is to ensure the health and safety of students, teachers, staff and all others using district buildings and grounds. The goal of this pest management program is to manage pests in order to:

1. Reduce any potential human health hazard and/or protect against a significant threat to public safety.
2. Prevent loss or damage to school structures or property.
3. Prevent pests from spreading in the community or to plant and animal populations beyond the site.
4. Enhance the quality of life and provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students, staff, and others.

The district shall utilize Integrated Pest Management procedures (IPM) to manage structural and landscape pests and the toxic chemicals for their control in order to alleviate pest problems with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment. Integrated Pest Management is the coordinated use of pest and environmental information with available pest control methods to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means with the least possible hazard.

IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural or biological means. Pest management strategies may include education, exclusion, sanitation, maintenance, biological and mechanical controls, and site appropriate pesticides. Chemical controls shall be used as a last resort. The Board establishes that the district shall use pesticides only after consideration of the full range of alternatives, including no action, based upon an analysis of environmental effects, safety, effectiveness, and costs.

An IPM decision shall consist of the following five steps:

1. Identify pest species.
2. Estimate pest populations and compare to established action thresholds.
3. Select the appropriate management tactics based on current on-site information.

4. Assess effectiveness of pest management.
5. Keep appropriate records.

The Principal shall be responsible to implement Integrated Pest Management procedures, including establishing and maintaining accurate records of all pest management activities. These records shall include pest surveillance, structural repairs and modifications, trapping, baiting, and pesticide applications. The Principal shall coordinate communications with members of the staff who are responsible for pest control, such as maintenance personnel and custodians, and hired contractors when utilized by the district to control a pest problem. All appropriate personnel involved in making pest management decisions shall take part in update training.

An Integrated Pest Management program shall include the education of staff, students and the public about IPM policies and procedures.

Information regarding pest management activities, including pesticide use, shall be available to the public in the Principal's office.

Legal Ref: 7 U.S. Code 136 et seq. Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

POLICY ADOPTED: 27 Sep 06
POLICY AMENDED: 11 Aug 09