# CABELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION'S SCHOOL PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

Adopted by the Cabell County Board of Education November 21, 1995

Structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems to people, property, and the environment. Pesticides can also pose a risk to people, property and the environment. It is therefore the policy of Cabell County Board of Education to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures for control of structural and landscape pests.

#### Pests

Pests are populations of living organisms (animals, plants, or microorganisms) that interfere with use of the school site for human purposes.

Strategies for managing pest populations will be influenced by the pest species and whether that species poses a threat to people, property, or the environment.

# **Pest Management**

Approved pest management plans should be developed for the site and should include any proposed pest management measures.

Pests will be managed to:

- ! Reduce any potential human health hazard or to protect against a significant threat to public safety.
- ! Prevent loss of or damage to school structures or property.
- Prevent pests from spreading into the community, or to plant and animal populations beyond the site.
- ! Enhance the quality of life for students, staff, and others.

## **Integrated Pest Management Procedures**

IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural, or biological means. IPM practitioners depend on current, comprehensive information of the pest and its environment and the best available pest control methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage by most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

The choice of using a pesticide will be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not acceptable or are not feasible. Cost of or staffing considerations alone will not be adequate justification for use of chemical control agents, and selected non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented whenever possible to provide the desired control. It is the policy of Cabell County Board of Education to utilize IPM principles to manage pest populations adequately. The full range of alternatives, including no action, will be considered.

When it is determined that a pesticide must be used in order to meet important management goals, the least hazardous material will be chosen. The application of pesticides is subject to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 United States Code 136 et seq.), school district policies and procedures, Environmental Protection Agency regulations in 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations and state and local regulations.

#### Education

Staff, students, pest managers, and the public will be educated about potential school pest problems and the IPM policies and procedures to be used to achieve the desired pest management objectives.

## **Record Keeping**

Records of pesticide use shall be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency and school board. Records must be current and accurate if IPM is to work In addition, pest surveillance data sheets that record the number of pests or other indicators of pest populations are to be maintained to verify the need for treatments.

## Inspection

Contractor must monitor and inspect each school once per month, and return if problems occur during the month. Contractor must have invoice signed at each school by the principal or designee. Invoices are then grouped and sent to the Maintenance Department. The records are to be kept for a period of two years. Monitoring includes inspecting areas for pest evidence and estimating pest population. Sticky traps are to be used by the contractor to monitor pests, and components of the program must include the following:

- ! A floor plan showing number and location of the traps, date checked, trap condition, and number and species of insects.
- ! Need for pest management.
- ! Replace traps as needed.

#### **Action Thresholds**

The level of action thresholds are set by the contractor and occupants. As numbers increase the strategy used will become more aggressive.

## I.P.M. Strategies

- ! Caulk and seal openings or cracks in structure.
- ! Keep mulch, shrubs, etc., one foot from structures.
- ! Allow food in designated areas only.
- ! Clean lockers routinely.
- ! Improve cleaning practices.
- ! Mechanical or glue caps.
- ! Promptly repair plumbing problems.
- ! Provide adequate drainage from structure.
- ! Apply pesticides judiciously. Use baits and crack application when possible.

#### Note:

- Pesticides are to be sprayed only when occupants are not present for an eight- hour period of time.
- Pesticide must be registered by E.P.A and W.V. Department of Agriculture. Occupants must be notified prior to application.
- ! Notices are to be sent home with students and posted around the facility.

#### Notification

Cabell County Board of Education takes the responsibility to notify the school staff and students of upcoming pesticide treatments. Notices will be

posted in designated areas at school and sent home to parents who wish to be informed in advance of pesticide applications,

## **Evaluation**

Evaluation of the IPM program will include periodic review of inspection reports and pest surveillance, data sheets to observe increases or decreases in pest activity and any correlation between changes and pest management action taken.

If necessary, alter the program to achieve the objectives.

# Pesticide Storage and Purchase

Pesticide purchases will be limited to the amount authorized for use during the year. Pesticides will be stored and disposed of in accordance with tile EPA-registered label directions and state regulations. Pesticides must be stored in an appropriate, secure site not accessible to students or unauthorized personnel.

## **Pesticide Applications**

Pesticide applicators must be educated and trained in the principles and practices of IPM and the use of pesticides approved by this school district, and they must follow regulations and label precautions. Applicators should be certified and comply with Cabell County Board of Education's IPM Policy and Pest Management Plan.