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# WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Treatment Program for Elementary School Playgrounds & Secondary School Tracks, Infields, & Non Turf area's

The following is to be the District's accepted program for treatment of any and all Playgrounds, Play areas, Tracks, Baseball and Softball Infield area's and those Non Turf area's (i.e. stone drives, parking area's, etc.).

*All natural, physical, cultural, biological and mechanical methods of removing the pests will be done prior to the use of any and all chemicals.*

### **PESTS:**

Pests in the following locations are typically broad leaf and grasses weed that infest areas and become unsightly and in the playground woodcarpet areas, tracks and baseball/softball infields create heavily compacted areas that reduce significantly the critical fall impact inttenuation percentage.

### **PROCEDURE:**

1. Prior to any application of a herbicide, the Facilities and Operations Department will either fax or mail to the Building Principal an authorization form (sample enclosed) that will explain what area's will be done and when including what chemicals are be used.
2. On arrival at the site the Applicator will check in with the Building's Main Office to give verbal notice that the scheduled application is to take place.
3. Applicator will place warning flags containing properly filled out information around perimeter of the treated area (approximately 50 ft apart).
4. On departure the Applicator will check in with the Building's Main Office to give verbal notice that the scheduled application was completed and to when the area can be re entered and the flags removed.

### **BUILDING's RESPONSIBILITY:**

1. Building Principal or his/her designee to approve or disapprove by signing and returning to the originator the application authorization form.  
**We ask that once approved, that all staff members are informed of where and when the application will take place, and the notice is posted in the building.**
2. Verify that the area to be treated will not be in use by any scheduled programs that may be happening within the building or it's grounds (i.e. Parks & Rec Programs, Summer School, etc).
3. Once re entry time has expired, remove flags and return to the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds or the Co ordinator of Central Grounds via inter office mail.

## FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS RESPONSIBILITY:

1. Properly identify need to make application of chemical herbicide. Evaluate alternative options or methods.
2. Notify Building Principal or his/her designee using the completely and accurately filled out authorization form via fax or mail to obtain approval.
3. On arrival at site check in with the Building's Main Office to give verbal notice that the scheduled application is to take place. **No verbal notice will be given on weekends or if treatment is done prior to the opening of the school building.**
4. Securing of area to be treated by making sure there is no one in the immediate area that may enter the treatment zone.
5. Placement of warning flags (approximately 50 feet apart) around treated area.
6. On departure the Applicator will check in with the Building's Main Office to give verbal notice that the scheduled application was completed and to when the area can be re entered and the flags removed.
7. Complete all area's of the Pesticide Application form as per Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture regulations.

## FLOWER & PLANTING BEDS:

*Spring time (March/ Early April) -*

Prior to installation of new mulch. Beds must be raked, weeded, old mulch turned over. Apply granular Pre emergent (i.e. **Preen**, etc.) at proper rate for the area. Spread new mulch @ minimum 4".

*Summer time -*

Should not have to do anything providing above was done properly. Possibly have to some light weeding on bed edges.

*Prior to Opening of School -*

Mulch areas will be raked and turned over, and if needed a thin layer of new mulch will be applied to enhance the curb appeal.

*Fall (after September 30) -*

Pruning and trimming of shrubs, trees, etc. Removal of fallen leaves and dead annual flowers. winter over preparation of all perennial flowers.

## WOOD CARPET PLAYGROUND AREA'S:

*Summer time (Not used on regular basis) -*

Application of either **Round up**, **Pramitol**, **Acclaim** mixed with **Trimec** or **Millennium Ultra**. Any combination of these products together give both pre and post emergent control of grass and weeds.

*Late Summer (Just prior to opening of School) -*

Central Grounds crew to replenish mulch bed area's to proper depth.

*Fall thru Spring (School in session) -*

Head Custodian to check on a daily basis for any hazards, trash, or harmful debris and to rake back in low area's particularly under swings and bottom of slides.

TRACKS, INFIELDS :

*Spring time (March/ Early April) -*

If not done in the Late fall to early winter - Preparation of spring sports, either using roto tiller, sod cutter, edger to define grass to infield areas, pitching mound and home plate area. Use of pre emergent with fertilizer on all grass areas. Pre emergent used to be **Barricade** or **Dimension**.

*Spring sports season -*

Daily preparation for practices and games.

*Summer time (Not used on regular basis) -*

Application of either **Round up**, **Pramitol**, **Acclaim** mixed with **Trimec** or **Millennium Ultra**. Any combination of these products together give both pre and post emergent control of grass and weeds.

*Late fall to early winter (October thru December) -*

Preparation of spring sports, either using roto tiller, sod cutter, edger to define grass to infield areas, pitching mound and home plate area.

NON TURF AREA'S (stone drives, parking area's, etc).:

*Spring time (March - May) -*

Application of either **Round up**, **Pramitol**, **Acclaim** mixed with **Trimec** or **Millennium Ultra**. Any combination of these products together give both pre and post emergent control of grass and weeds.