

# Five Town Community School District Integrated Pest Management Plan

Structural and landscape pests can pose significant problems to people, property and the environment. Pesticides can also pose risks to people, property and the environment. It is therefore the policy of the Five Town CSD to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures for control of structural and landscape pests.

An Integrated Pest Management Plan is structured to be an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management. The most current, comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interactions with the environment is essential in managing pests through economical means with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment.

## **Procedures**

Integrated Pest Management procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural or biological means. The means will depend on current, comprehensive information on the pest and its environment and the best available pest control methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage by the 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. The full range of alternatives, including no action, will be considered. If it is determined that a pesticide must be used in order to meet management goals, the least hazardous material will be chosen. The application of pesticides is subject to the *Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act* (7 U.S. Code 136 et seq.), the Environmental Protection Agency regulations in 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, state and local government regulations, and any Five Town CSD applicable policies.

## **Education**

Staff, students and the public will be informed about potential school pest problems and the 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 state, local and Five Town CSD regulations. 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 treatment.

### **Notification**

Five Town CSD takes the responsibility to notify staff and students of upcoming pesticide treatments. Notices will be posted in designated areas at school and notices will be sent home to parents.

### **Pesticide Storage and Purchase**

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

### **Pesticide Applicators**

Maine law requires anyone applying pesticides in schools to be licensed as a commercial applicator through the Board of Pesticide Control.