

Procedure Title	Pesticides, Including Insecticides and Herbicides		
Date of Issue	June 17, 2003	Related Policy	BP 3801-D
Revision Dates	June 23, 2010	Related Forms	
Review Date		Originator	System Administrative Team
References			

Procedure:

1. Authority:

- Bluewater District School Board BP 3801-D Health and Safety regulates the Board's Occupational Health and Safety requirements to ensure all students and staff have a safe environment both inside schools and on school property.

2. Board Requirements:

- Bluewater District School Board recognizes that a large number of staff and students may be medically sensitive to the presence of pesticides, including insecticides and herbicides. In order to provide a safe and healthy environment for all, the use of these products shall be limited to special circumstances and where authorized by special arrangements. The use of small amounts of Pesticides, under controlled conditions, may be necessary to resolve more serious issues. Pesticides of lower levels of toxicity will be favoured where effectiveness is not compromised.

3. Board Responsibilities:

- To provide a safe environment for staff and students by controlling infestations of insects and rodents i.e. fleas, wasps, mice as a Public Health issue and to control noxious weeds in accordance with Municipal by-laws.
- To ensure joint use partners of school facilities follow the procedures defined and this procedure becomes part of any shared use agreement.
- To ensure this procedure is used at offsite facilities used by staff and students for school based programs.

4. Principal/Manager Responsibilities:

- Monitor and respond to site concerns including fleas, wasps; rodents, and noxious weeds.
- Provide documentation to show cause for the controlled use of pesticides or herbicides by providing medical reasons, municipal orders or complaints.

- Advise Plant Services and the Occupational Health and Safety Officer if an infestation is suspected. Consultation with a Medical Practitioner may be helpful.
- Communicate with all concerned parties on infestation control procedures.
- Ensure a school response plan is in effect to identify and respond to the application of pesticides, including insecticides and herbicides at community facilities used by staff and students.

5. Plant Services/Occupational Health and Safety Office Responsibilities:

- Develop an action plan in consultation with the Principal/Manager and contact and instruct the Pest Control Company/Contractor (qualified under the Pesticides Control Act) of the scope of work and special circumstances.
- Bait packs, etc. for rodent control must be placed in non-readily accessible locations.
- Occupational Health and Safety Office shall obtain current Material Safety Data Sheets for all products used.
- Control Contractor will provide Material Safety Data Sheets as requested for products used and recommend only products that are adequate to control the identified problem.

6. Employee Responsibilities:

- Advise the Principal/Manager of evidence of a problem.
- Participate in testing and investigation to determine type of problem to ensure proper and appropriate control methods are selected that minimize risk to others.
- Supervise the areas of application and follow established procedures to minimize risk to students and other employees.

7. Use of Herbicides:

- The use of herbicides (i.e. Roundup) to control grass and weeds on sport tracks and in playground equipment landing areas is prohibited.
- The use of acetic acid can be used locally to control weeds on sport tracks and in playground equipment landing areas.
- The use of combined fertilizers and weed control products on sports fields is prohibited. Fertilizers can be used if they do not contain pesticide or herbicide additives.
- The control of wasps, bees, spiders, fleas, mites, ants and other insects that could pose a risk to staff or students can be controlled using a qualified and licensed pest control contractor, using proper WHMIS procedures.
- The control of poison ivy, hog weed and other dangerous weeds can continue to be controlled by a qualified and licensed pest control contractor using proper WHMIS procedures. Schools will submit a work order to the Plant Department to initiate this service.