

LETTERS TO PARENTS, GUARDIANS, RESIDENTS AND STAFF

PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

In accordance with the regulations mandated by ACT 35 and ACT 36, April 8, 2001, the Dallastown Area School District will be using an "Integrated Pest management" (IPM) program for managing insects, rodents and weeds, within schools and on school grounds. This program will become effective January 1, 2003. Our goal is to protect every student from pesticide exposure by using an IPM approach to pest management. Our IPM approach focuses on making the school building and grounds an unfavorable habitat for these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We accomplish this through routine cleaning and maintenance. We routinely monitor the school buildings and grounds to detect any pests that are present. The pest monitoring team consists of our building maintenance, office and teaching staff and includes our students. Pest sightings are reported to our IPM Coordinator who evaluates the pest problem and determines the appropriate pest management techniques to address the problem. The techniques can include increased sanitation, modifying storage practices, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest, etc.

From time to time, it may be necessary to use chemicals to manage a pest problem. These chemicals will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. When chemicals are used, the school will try to use the least toxic product when possible.

(Applications will be made only after normal school hours.) Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two (2) days following the application.

Parent(s) and guardian(s) of students enrolled within the district may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the schools. To receive notifications, you must be placed on the *school notification registry*. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please notify the district in writing, indicating the notification method desired, phone, first class mail or email. Include your email address if you would like to be notified electronically. A new notification registry will be prepared annually.

If a chemical application must be made to control an emergency pest problem (ex. stinging insects), notice will be provided by telephone to any parent or guardian who has requested such notification in writing. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and anti-microbial products; self-containerized baits placed in areas not accessible to students, and gel type baits placed in cracks, crevices or voids; and swimming pool maintenance chemicals.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. James Heilman, Director of Buildings & Grounds at (717) 244-4021, ext. 4291 or our Buildings and Grounds Department at (717) 244-4021, ext. 4241.