



Bloomsburg Area School District

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July 2019

Dear Bloomsburg Area School District Parents and Guardians:

We would like to inform you that an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for controlling insects, rodents, and weeds will be used at Bloomsburg Area School District. The IPM approach we will be using focuses on making the school buildings and grounds an unfavorable place for pests to live and breed. Through maintenance and cleaning, we will reduce or eliminate available food and water sources and hiding places for the pests. We will also routinely monitor the school area to detect pest problems and prevent the pests from becoming established. Some IPM techniques we will employ include monitoring, increased sanitation, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest, and modifying storage practices.

From time to time, it may be necessary to use chemicals to control a pest problem. Chemicals will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. When chemicals must be used, the school district will try to use the least toxic products possible. Access to treated areas will be secured against unauthorized access for the period specified on the pesticide label. Notices will be posted at application sites and will remain there until the posted safe re-entry time is met. For your information, we have a list of pesticides and material safety and data sheets (MSDS) that may be used in each school. This list may be obtained by contacting the school district's IPM coordinator.

You may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made in the school district. To receive notification, you must be placed on the notification registry. Registrants will be notified at least 72 hours before a pesticide is applied. If a chemical application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be provided as soon as possible after the application. Exemptions to this notification include cleaners (disinfectants), pesticides formulated as baits or gels, swimming pool chemicals, and any EPA-exempt pesticides. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please submit a letter requesting such to the district's IPM coordinator, and indicate whether you wish to be notified via e-mail or phone call. A new registry will be created for each school year (July 1 – June 30), so a new request must be made each year.

If you have any questions, please contact the school district's IPM coordinator, Stephanie Kessler (728 East Fifth Street, Bloomsburg, PA 17815, skessler@bloomsd.k12.pa.us, 570-784-5000). For further information about school IPM, please visit <http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/> or <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm/>.

Sincerely,

Donald Wheeler
Superintendent