

MARYLAND PESTICIDE LAWS & RESOURCES

SCHOOL IPM AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Maryland state law mandates that Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is used in all public schools and on school grounds. IPM requires that pesticides are only to be used when all non-toxic means have been exhausted or are unreasonable.

The law requires that at the beginning of the school year all parents and staff of public schools are provided with an explanation of the school district's IPM system and a list of the pesticides that may be used during the school year. The law also requires that all parents and staff of elementary public

schools are notified at least 24 hours in advance of any indoor pesticide application other than a bait station, and in the case of an emergency, 24 hours after application. Additionally, parents, guardians, students and staff of public middle and high schools in Maryland have the right to register to be notified of pesticide applications made to their individual school's interiors, exteriors and grounds during the school year. Notification includes information on the potential acute adverse effects that may occur from the pesticide used.

Note: Full text of law can be accessed online at www.mda.state.md.us/plant/schregs.pdf.)



WARNING SIGNS MUST BE POSTED WHERE PESTICIDES ARE USED

If a licensed applicator applies pesticides to any turf or landscape area, informational signs must be posted for 48 hours following the application. The MDA state law requires this notification.

Note: Full text of law, under Title 15, Ch. 01, "Regulations Pertaining to the Pesticide Applicators' Law, p.102-2, .15 Posting of Signs, can be accessed online at www.mda.state.md.us/plant/regs.pdf.)

PESTICIDE SENSITIVE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD REGISTER WITH MDA

MDA is required to maintain a list of pesticide sensitive individuals who have registered with MDA for notification of commercial lawn care pesticide applications on adjacent properties. At times,

MDA also uses this list to notify sensitive individuals of Department initiated applications. To register, a person must submit to MDA a current valid physician's letter indicating their pesticide sensitivity or that they should not be exposed to a pesticide because of a diagnosed condition or ailment that makes them more sensitive to these chemicals.

Note: Full text of law, under Title 15, Ch. 01, "Regulations Pertaining to Pesticide Applicators' Law", p.102-6, .17 List of Pesticide Sensitive Individuals, can be accessed online at www.mda.state.md.us/plant/regs.pdf.) For information and a registration application, call MDA Pesticide Regulation Section, (410) 841-5710.

REPORT NONCOMPLIANCE

For more information or to report noncompliance with these laws, send an e-mail to settingm@mda.state.md.us or write the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Regulation Section, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401, and request a written response. For questions call (410) 841-5710. Include information on any contact you have had with the applicator in your letter. Please send a copy of your letter to the Maryland Pesticide Network at info@mdpestnet.org, or to 544 Epping Forest Road, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 849-3909.

RESOURCES ON PESTICIDES AND ALTERNATIVES

ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Pediatrics

The AAP and its member pediatricians dedicate their efforts and resources to the health, safety and well being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults.

www.aap.org • (202) 347-8600

American College of Preventive Medicine

The ACPM is the national professional society for physicians committed to disease prevention and health promotion.

www.acpm.org • (202) 466-2044

American Lung Association

The ALA fights lung disease in all its forms, with special emphasis on asthma, tobacco control and environmental health.

www.lungusa.org • (212) 315-8700

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

The AAFA is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with asthma and allergies and their caregivers, through education, advocacy and research.

www.aafa.org • (202) 466-7643

Beyond Pesticides

Beyond Pesticides is committed to pesticide safety and the adoption of alternative pest management strategies that reduce or eliminate the dependency on toxic chemicals.

www.beyondpesticides.org • (202) 543-5450

Centers for Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research

Developed by the NIEHS, EPA, and CDC, the goal of this program is to promote translation of basic research findings into applied intervention and prevention methods.

www.niehs.nih.gov/translat/children/children.htm • (919) 541-4980

Center for Children's Health and the Environment, The Mount Sinai School of Medicine

CCHE is the nation's first academic research and policy center to examine the links between exposure to toxic pollutants and childhood illness.

www.childenvironment.org • (212) 241-7840

Children's Environmental Health Network

CEHN is a national, multi-disciplinary organization, whose mission is to protect the fetus and child from environmental health hazards and promote a healthy environment.

www.cehn.org • (202) 543-4033

Children's Health Environmental Coalition

CHEC's mission is to inform the public about preventable health and development problems caused by exposure to toxic substances and encourage people to take action.

www.chechnet.org • (609) 252-1915

EPA: Office of Children's Health Protection

OCHP supports and facilitates Agency efforts to protect children's health from environmental threats.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochp/ochpweb.nsf/homepage> • (202) 564-2188

Maryland Pesticide Network

Educates health care providers and the public about pesticides and public health and promotes policies that reduce exposure to pesticides.

<http://www.mdpestnet.org> •
(410) 849-3909

National Environmental Education and Training Foundation

NEETF's goal for health professionals is to create a stronger public health safety net through environmentally educated health care givers.

www.neetf.org/health/publications.shtml#PestEd •
(202) 833-2933

Physicians for Social Responsibility

PSR represents more than 20,000 physicians, nurses, health care professionals, and concerned citizens devoted to nuclear disarmament, violence prevention and environmental health.

www.psr.org/enviro.htm •
(202) 667-4260

PUBLICATIONS

Evans, Nancy (2002). ***“State of the Evidence: What is the connection between chemicals and breast cancer?”*** Published by Breast Cancer Fund and Breast Cancer Action.

Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility (2000). ***“In Harm's Way: Toxic Threats to Child Development.”*** Available online at www.igc.org/psr.

Lymphoma Foundation of America (2001). ***“Do Pesticides Cause Lymphoma?”*** Available online at www.lymphomaresearch.org.

National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (2003).

“National Pesticide Practice Skills Guidelines for Medical and Nursing Practice.”

A Project of the National Strategies for Health Care Providers: Pesticides Initiatives. Available online at <http://www.neetf.org/health/PestMgmt.pdf>.

Solomon, Gina (2000). ***“Pesticides and Human Health: A Resource for Health Care Professionals.”***

Published by Physicians for Social Responsibility and Californians for Pesticide Reform. Available online at <http://www.sfbaypsr.org/publications.html>.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (1999).

“Recognition and Management of Pesticide Poisonings.” Document # EPA 735-F-98-003. Available online in English or Spanish at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/safety/healthcare/handbook/handbook.htm>.

A hard copy can be ordered by contacting the National Service Center for Environmental Publications at (800) 490-9198 or at www.epa.gov/ncepihom/nepishom.

Wargo, John and Emily Eveston Wargo (2002). ***“The State of Children's Health and the Environment, 2002.”*** Available online at www.checnet.org.

MARYLAND PESTICIDE NETWORK

www.mdpestnet.org • info@mdpestnet.org • (410) 849-3909