

ANNUAL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT NOTICE FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2019 -2020

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Staff Member:

This notice is being distributed to comply with the New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act. Harding Township Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy and has implemented an IPM Plan to comply with this law. IPM is a holistic, preventive approach to managing pests that is explained further in the school's IPM Policy included with this notice.

All schools in New Jersey are required to have an Integrated Pest Management Coordinator (IPM Coordinator) to oversee all activities related to IPM and pesticide use at the school.

The IPM Coordinator for Harding Township Public Schools is: **MR. JOSEPH PITCHER**

Business Phone Number: **973-267-6398 X129**

Business Address: **34 Lee's Hill Road, New Vernon, NJ 07976**

The IPM Coordinator maintains the pesticide product label, and the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) (when one is available), of each pesticide product that may be used on school property. The label and the MSDS are available for review by a parent, guardian, staff member, or student attending the school. Also, the IPM Coordinator is available to parents, guardians, and staff members for information and to discuss comments about IPM activities and pesticide use at the school.

As part of a school pest management plan, Harding Township Public Schools may use pesticides to control pests. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) register pesticides to determine that the use of a pesticide in accordance with instructions printed on the label does not pose an unreasonable risk to human health and the environment. Nevertheless, the EPA and the DEP cannot guarantee that registered pesticides do not pose any risk to human health, thus unnecessary exposure to pesticides should be avoided. The EPA has issued the statement that where possible, persons who are potentially sensitive, such as pregnant women, infants and children, should avoid unnecessary pesticide exposure.

The following items must be included with this annual notice:

- ✓ A copy of the school or school district's IPM policy.
- ✓ A list of pesticides that are in use or that have been used in the past 12 months on school property.

IPM PLAN AND GOALS

Harding Township Public Schools Integrated Pest Management is a long term approach to maintaining healthy landscapes, athletic fields and facilities that minimizes risks to people and the environment. Harding Township Public Schools will use ongoing site assessment, pest monitoring and pest prevention in combination with a variety of pest management tactics to keep pests within acceptable limits. Instead of routine chemical applications, our school will employ mechanical, physical, and biological controls with selective use of pesticides when needed. Ongoing site meetings with Lawn Tech, Viking Pest, administration and IPM coordinator to keep current with all current methods available for treatment.

The Harding Township Board of Education has appointed Mr. Joseph Pitcher IPM Coordinator to maintain these plans, goals and policies. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Mr. Pitcher at 973-267-6398 X129 or via e-mail at jpitcher@hardingtwp.org .