

Template letter for informing parents about IPM plan, how they will be notified of pesticide applications, and about posting of applications

NOTES:

1) The draft template letter below was created by Bob Bennet, IPM Coordinator at Ontario School District, and Tim Stock, OSU School IPM Program Coordinator. Please modify it to fit your situation.

2) You have to replace the green-highlighted **XXXX**s with your own information.

3) If you are not from a school district (i.e. if you are from a private school, Head Start Program, Community College, etc.) be sure to edit out the word “district”

4) This template includes the text “**along with a notification of any planned pesticide applications**” below, which **you should change to fit what works best for your situation**. Posting online is not the only way notification can be done. You can decide to use one or more methods to notify parents and staff of an application. ORS 634.740 states that the plan coordinator or designee may give a written notice by any reasonable means, and that the school should consider which methods for transmitting the notice are most likely to reach the intended recipients. It is up to the school to determine which means and methods are most likely to reach the intended recipients. Usually this will be the same as standard notification procedure for other important information.

To the Parents of **XXXX** School District students:

This letter is to inform you of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) law enacted on July 1, 2012 that Oregon Schools must abide by (ORS 637.700-637.750). We are required to notify staff, students, and parents anytime there is a scheduled application of a pesticide at any of our school campuses. In that notification you will find expected application date, name of the pesticide being applied, the EPA registration number of the pesticide, and other information. You will find our IPM plan on the **XXXX** School District web page **along with a notification of any planned pesticide applications**. Our web address is: **XXXXXX**

For each application of a pesticide – inside or outside – we are also required to post in the vicinity of the application on that school campus. So on occasion you may see signs posted informing you of a pesticide application at a school, but please be assured that we are doing everything we can to keep these applications to a minimum and only using the safest of products to achieve the expected results. There will be contact information on the application posting signs of who you can call if you ever have questions about what is going on or what products are being used.

An OSU faculty member with expertise in pesticide toxicology has reviewed all of the pesticides that we use, and they meet the requirements of a “low-impact pesticide” as defined by ORS 634.705 (5). They never have a label category that is higher than Caution, and contain no known carcinogens. You can find a copy of the approved list of pesticides at the following web page:

http://www.ipmnet.org/tim/IPM_in_Schools/IPM%20Materials/8-5-13_Low-Impact_Pesticide_List.pdf If you have any questions or concerns about these products, I encourage you to contact the National Pesticide Information Center at <http://npic.orst.edu>

I would also encourage you to review the entire OSU School IPM program at http://www.ipmnet.org/tim/IPM_in_Schools/IPM_in_Schools-Main_Page.html to see what we are doing and how we go about improving the condition of our schools to create a healthier environment for your children. It is all about educating, communicating, and eliminating pests through cleaning and organizing our environment. We are sealing up our buildings, eliminating clutter, keeping food in plastic storage containers, eliminating leaks and drips in our plumbing, properly pruning our landscaping, and being more thorough in our cleaning efforts. Through these efforts we are eliminating the three things that pests need to survive: Food, Water, and Shelter. We are also providing a healthier learning environment for your children, and saving the school district precious dollars that would otherwise be spent on pesticides.

If you have questions you may contact me at: XXXXXXXXXX

Thank you,

XXX XXXXXXXX

IPM Coordinator

XXXX School District