

West York Area School District

Administrative Office – 1891 Loucks Road Suite 100 York, PA 17408 717.792.2796

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian:

The West York Area School District uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents, and weeds. 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 buildings and grounds an unfavorable habitat for pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We accomplish this through routine cleaning and maintenance.

Our buildings and grounds are routinely monitored to detect any pests that are present. The pest monitoring team consists of our office, teaching, and building maintenance staff, and 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. 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 48 hours following the application.

Parents or guardians of students enrolled in our school district may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications. To receive notification, you must be placed on our IPM Notification Registry. Each year you must give written notification to our IPM Coordinator, Mr. Jeff Ludwig that you want to be on our Registry. Your notification letter must include your name, current address, day time phone number, and the name(s) of your child(ren).

Written notice will be mailed three days prior to a chemical application only to those families on our Registry. Registrants will be notified by phone only if a chemical application must be made to control an "emergency" pest problem (i.e., stinging insects). 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.

If you have any questions, please contact our Mr. Jeff Ludwig, IPM Coordinator, at 792-5912.

Sincerely,

West York Area School District

Todd M. Davies, Superintendent