

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

Manteno CUSD #5 practices Integrated Pest Management (IPM), a program that combines preventive techniques, non-chemical pest control methods, and the appropriate use of pesticides with a preference for products that are the least harmful to human health and the environment. The term "pesticide" includes insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, and fungicides.

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 areas 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 District will try to use the least toxic products. 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.

You may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the notification registry. The registrants will be notified in writing at least 48 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, and any EPA exempt pesticide. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please print, complete, and return the attached form to your child's school.

Sincerely,

Dawn S. Russert  
Superintendent

John DePoister  
IPM Manager