



# Mount Carmel Area School District

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## Integrated Pest Management

The Mt. Carmel 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 these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We accomplish this through routine cleaning and maintenance. We routinely monitor the buildings and grounds to detect any pests that are present. The pest monitoring team consists of our building maintenance staff, teaching staff and also includes 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 pests, etc.

From time to time it may be necessary to use chemicals to manage a pest problem. Materials will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. When materials are used, the school will try to use the least toxic product when possible. The District will contract with a pest management company to perform site service when necessary. (Applications will be made only after normal school hours.) Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two days following the application.

Parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification you must be placed on the school notification registry. If you would like to be placed on the registry, please notify the district in writing. Please include your e-mail address if you would like to be notified electronically.

If a material application must be made to control an emergency pest problem (stinging insects), notice will be provided by telephone to any parent or guardian who has requested such notification in writing. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and anti-microbial products; self-containerized baits placed in areas not accessible to students, gel type baits placed in cracks, crevices, or voids; and swimming pool maintenance chemicals. Each year the district will prepare a new notification registry.

If you have any questions, please contact: Dave Fegley\_\_ IPM Coordinator.