

Boling Independent School District Pest Management Policy

Policy Statement: The management Boling Independent School District is committed to providing a safe environment for the children in our care. We seek to prevent students/children from being exposed to pests and pesticides, and therefore we have adopted the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to pest control. The IPM approach minimizes the exposure of students/children and staff to pesticides, and includes a variety of non-chemical and chemical methods to prevent and eradicate pests. While pesticides may be used to remediate infestations of pests (such as insects, weeds, and rodents) that may be found in the facility and its surrounding grounds, only the least toxic products will be considered and combined with non-chemical methods.

Definition of Integrated Pest Management:

- 7 An ecologically-based management strategy that provides long-term solutions to pest problems with minimum impact on human health and the environment. Programs are heavily reliant upon pest prevention through good sanitation and mechanical means such as pest-proofing buildings.

^ **Head lice policy:** pesticide applications to the facility for head lice are ineffective, and thus are prohibited by this policy. An informational fact sheet on head lice will be provided for staff, teachers, and parents. Non-chemical control options (combs, etc.) are indicated in the literature.

Commitments: This policy covers all indoor and outdoor areas used by the district. **This facility recognizes that pest management is best accomplished through partnership. Therefore, we are committed to accepting the advice of the Pest Management experts and conducting maintenance and remediation in a timely manner.**

1. Facilities should designate a contact person to answer questions from parents and staff about IPM and this policy, and coordinate implementation of this policy with others, such as the landlord, pest management professionals, and grounds professionals.
2. Pest management remediation should be based on the results of regular inspections and monitoring. Pest management professionals partner as educators and diagnosticians, they are IPM experts not spray techs.

3. Pest management professionals visit the premises during operational hours and interact with building managers and inhabitants.
 4. Pesticides should not be applied in a routine manner and should only be considered if an active pest infestation is confirmed.
 5. Restrict pesticide products to those with an EPA “Caution” label or a specified “Green List” of allowable pesticides.
 6. No one other than a certified pesticide applicator should make pesticide applications. Pest Management personnel whether contracted or on staff, should partner with school/child care facility staff and function as an educator and diagnostician of pest problems.
 7. Provide new staff with orientation training on Integrated Pest Management.
 8. Ensure that pesticides will not be applied when children are present at the facility. Toys and other items mouthed or handled by the children will be removed from the area before pesticides are applied. Children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
 9. Inform parents and staff members in writing of the facility's pest control policy at enrollment and/or annually.
 10. Provide at least three operational days but not more than 30 days advance notice of pesticide application to parents and staff except in emergencies where pests pose an immediate health threat to children or staff (e.g. honey bees).
 11. In the event of an emergency where pests pose an immediate health threat to children and staff (e.g. bees) and pesticides are applied, ensure that children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
 12. Ensure that pesticide MSDS and labels are available and up-to-date. They must be located in a known and accessible place.
 13. Notify parents and staff as soon as possible when advance notice is not provided and include an explanation of the emergency, the reason for the late notice and the name of pesticide applied.
 14. Make accessible, upon request, all records of pesticide applications and advance notices, pest sighting logs, and monitoring logs for the minimum time period required by state law.
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Exemptions: This policy does not apply to the following exempted uses of products:

- 1) Germicides, disinfectants, bactericides, sanitizing agents, water purifiers and chemicals used in normal cleaning activities;
- 2) Personal insect repellents applied to the person with parental consent;
- 3) Manufactured enclosed pesticides and crack and crevice application of gel baits, where students/children do not have access to the bait;
- 4) The district must comply with all usage directions specified by the label. This is a minimum requirement.

Contacts: The district periodically applies pesticides. Information concerning these applications and/or the District Integrated Pest Management Program, please call Wade Stidevent (IPM Coordinator) at (979) 657-2770.