

Shaler Area School District

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August 2018

NOTIFICATION LETTER FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF

The Shaler 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 building 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 school building and grounds to detect any pests that are present. 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 products possible. Applications will be made only when unauthorized person(s) do not have access to the area(s) being treated. Notices will be posted for planned applications in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two days following the application.

Planned fertilizing will take place in the fall during the last week in September through the first week in November and in the spring from April through June on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday with Saturday being the first choice.

Routine pest control is done in every building in the District the second Friday of every month starting at 2:30 p.m. The pest control technician goes to the Building and Grounds offices first, then the Middle School, the High School, the Elementary School, Scott Primary, Burchfield Primary, Marzolf Primary, and, lastly, Reserve Primary. If there is no school on the second Friday of the month due to holiday, snow day, etc., the pest control is done the following Friday (the third Friday of the month). Routine pest control for outside areas (bleachers, fields, etc..) will be done at the beginning of each season on Friday.

Parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school and district staff may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at any given school. To receive notification for a specific school, you must be placed on the school’s planned notification registry for that school building. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please notify the District in writing. Include your home address, daytime and home phone number, and the school(s) for which you want to be notified. E-mail is our preferred mode of communication for this information, so include your e-mail address if you have one.

**Please forward your written request, which specifies your desired manner of notification to:
John Kaib, Shaler Area School District, 1660 Butler Plank Road, Glenshaw, PA, 15116.**

If a chemical application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be provided to any parent, guardian, or school district staff who has requested such notification in writing for a specific building. Again, our preferred mode of communication will be e-mail unless you specify that you desire a phone call. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and antimicrobial products; self-containerized baits placed in areas not accessible to students and staff, and gel-type baits placed in cracks, crevices, or voids; swimming pool maintenance chemicals, and any summertime fertilizer applications. Each year the District will prepare a new notification registry.

If you have any questions, please contact John Kaib, IPM Coordinator at 412-492-1200, extension 2900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean C. Aiken". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sean Aiken
Superintendent