

# Annual Integrated Pest Management Notice For School Year 2018 - 2019

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Staff Member:

This notice is being distributed to comply with the New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act. Northern Highlands Regional High School has adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy and has implemented an IPM Plan to comply with this law. IPM is a holistic, preventive approach to managing pests that is explained further in the school's IPM Policy included with this notice.

All schools in New Jersey are required to have an Integrated Pest Management Coordinator (IPM Coordinator) to oversee all activities related to IPM and pesticide use at the school.

The IPM Coordinator for Northern Highlands Regional High School is:

Name of IPM Coordinator: Jamie Atchison, Facilities Manager

Business Phone number: (201) 327 8700 x 571

Business Address: 298 Hillside Avenue, Allendale, NJ 07401

The IPM Coordinator maintains the pesticide product label, and the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) (when one is available), of each pesticide product that may be used on school property. The label and the MSDS are available for review by a parent, guardian, staff member, or student attending the school. Also, the IPM Coordinator is available to parents, guardians, and staff members for information and to discuss comments about IPM activities and pesticide use at the school.

As part of a school pest management plan Northern Highlands Regional High School may use pesticides to control pests. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) register pesticides to determine that the use of a pesticide in accordance with instructions printed on the label does not pose an unreasonable risk to human health and the environment. Nevertheless, the EPA and the DEP cannot guarantee that registered pesticides do not pose any risk to human health, thus unnecessary exposure to pesticides should be avoided. The EPA has issued the statement that where possible, persons who are potentially sensitive, such as pregnant women, infants and children, should avoid unnecessary pesticide exposure.

## **The following items must be included with this annual notice:**

- **A copy of the school or school district's IPM policy.**
- **The date, time and place of any meeting if one is to be held for the purpose of adopting or modifying the school integrated pest management policy or plan.**
- **A list of pesticides that are in use or that have been used in the past 12 months on school property.**

# NORTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

298 Hillside Avenue, Allendale, NJ 07401

(201) 327 8700

## **Pest Management Program**

The Northern Highlands Regional High School uses an Integrated Pest Management approach for managing insects, rodents and weeds. Our goal is to protect every student from pesticide exposure by using this approach to pest management. This technique focuses on making the school building and grounds an unfavorable habitat for pests by removing food and water sources, and eliminating their harborage areas. We accomplish this by focusing on good sanitation and thorough routine monitoring of the school building and grounds to detect pests that are present.

The pest monitoring team consists of our building maintenance, office and teaching staff and includes our pest control provider. Pest sightings are reported to our School IPM Coordinator who coordinates with our pest control provider to take appropriate steps to address the situation. This may include changes to sanitation program, modification of storage practices, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest, etc.

From time to time, it may be necessary to use chemicals or pesticides to manage a pest problem. Chemicals will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. If and when a pesticide application is warranted, steps will be taken to ensure that no students are present in accordance with state and federal guidelines. Parents or guardians of student enrolled in the school may request prior notification of specific pesticide application made at the school. To receive such a notification, you must be placed on the school notification registry. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please notify the school district in writing and include your email address if you would like to be notified electronically.

If a chemical application is needed to control an emergency situation such as stinging insects, notice will be provided as soon after the application as possible according to state and federal guidelines. Exemptions for notifications include the use of self-containerized and gel formulated baits placed in inaccessible areas. Each year the district will prepare a new notification registry.

## **IPM Coordinator and Committee**

IPM Coordinator:	Jamie Atchison	Facilities Manager	(201) 327 8700 x571
Committee Members:	Joe Occhino	Principal	
	Mark Roosa	Day Foreman	
	Emil Petrov	Night Foreman	
	Ralph Flannery	Grounds Foreman	

### **Program Communication Strategy**

The IPM Coordinator will meet regularly with a representative from Ehrlich Pest Control to discuss concerns and pests discovered during routine services. The service technician will then follow up with written service documentation which is then placed in the School IPM log book. This logbook is used not only to record all pest control activities but also serves as a site where faculty and staff can report pest control concerns that need to be addressed. This binder is kept in an area deemed appropriate by the School IPM coordinator.

Wherever practical, non-chemical means will be used to control or limit pests. However, if a pesticide application is warranted then:

1. The School IPM coordinator will be notified and must approve the application.
2. All pre-notification documentation will be sent out as requested by parents/guardians, faculty and staff as outlined in state and federal regulations\*
3. Students will not be allowed in the treatment area as required by state and federal regulations
4. The treatment area will be posted as required by state and federal regulations
5. A record of the material applied will be documented in the School IPM Logbook.

\*Pre-notification may not be possible for emergency pest concerns such as stinging insects. In these instances Ehrlich Pest Control will communicate with the School IPM Coordinator to take the steps necessary to protect the students, faculty and staff and comply with the state and federal regulations regarding emergency applications.

### **Program Evaluation**

A representative from Ehrlich Pest Control will meet with the School IPM Coordinator on an annual basis to discuss and refine the School Pest Management Program to maximize its effectiveness and ensure that we are meeting the goals of minimizing pesticide use while, at the same time, protecting our students faculty and staff from pest infestation. The School IPM Coordinator will then be responsible for presenting this information to the School IPM committee members to ensure agreement with the pest management program.

## **IPM / Athletic Field Summary**

At Northern Highlands, the lawn care program is an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach. Our trained technicians will monitor insect & weed populations and once certain thresholds are met we will apply the most effective controls. This approach allows Perennial to minimize the amount of pesticides used by only applying pesticides when and where they are needed. This will protect benign insects, and allow an acceptable amount of weed coverage that will not adversely affect the turf or create

Low impact pesticides and organic fertilizers are always our 1st choice. However, preventative and curative applications are sometimes required to control damaging pest. If untreated, these pests will create unsafe playing conditions which could cause injuries to our students and athletes. Spot applications of insect and weed controls will be applied once these thresholds are met.

Cultural practices are also an important part of any successful IPM plan. Proper mowing procedures, soil pH, seeding, & watering are just a few examples that have a huge impact on the quality of the turf. Northern Highlands has a very good maintenance program. The turf is mowed at a good height, it is watered consistently, and it is over seeded thoroughly each spring and fall.

The program at Northern Highlands consists of 7 applications that are performed during 5 visits. The exact applications and dates will vary from year to year.

Visit# 1 (March 15- April 1st) Fertilizer and Crabgrass Pre-emergent or an Organic Fertilizer Application. The type of product applied depends on the amount of crabgrass the previous season and whether or not the fields are being over-seeded.

Visit# 2 (May 15 - June 1st.) Fertilizer and Crabgrass Pre-emergent or an Organic Fertilizer Application. The type of product applied depends on what was applied during the 1st application, whether the fields were seeded in the spring, and the current crabgrass population. Spot weed control may be applied.

Visit# 3 (June 20th- July 4th) The timing of this application is scheduled for the end of the school year. Fertilizer and Preventative Grub Control. Spot weed & Insect control may be applied.

Visit# 4 (July 24-August 1st) The timing of this application is scheduled for the summer closing. Organic Fertilizer Application. Spot weed control may be applied.

Visit# 5 (Sept 15- Oct 15th) Organic Fertilizer Application. lime or other soil amendments depending on the soil tests results. Spot weed control may be applied.

## **Program Evaluation**

A representative from Perennial Services will meet with the School IPM Coordinator on an annual basis to evaluate and refine the Athletic Field Integrated Pest Management Program to maximize the plan's effectiveness and to ensure that we are minimizing pesticide use while, at the same time, ensuring the safety of our students and athletes by providing a safe playing field environment. The School IPM Coordinator will then be responsible for presenting this information to the School IPM committee members to ensure agreement with the pest management program.

Dan Stapinski Perennial Lawn Care - 973-949-4300 - [sprinklersurgeon.com](http://sprinklersurgeon.com) [perenniallawncare.com](http://perenniallawncare.com)