

Advisory To Parents / Guardians

State of Michigan law requires that schools that may apply pesticides on school property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending the facility.

Please be advised that Newaygo Public Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion, and biological controls. One of the objectives of using an IPM approach is to reduce or eliminate the need for chemical applications of pesticides. However, certain situations may require the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel formulation, that is made to the school grounds or buildings during this school year. Please note that notification is not given for the use of sanitizers, germicides, disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least 2 methods.

The first method will be by posting at the main entrance to the school, which is located at:

- Newaygo High School, 200 East St., Newaygo, MI 49337
- Newaygo Middle School, 850 E. 76th St., Newaygo, MI 49337
- Velma Matson Upper Elementary School, 29 E. Post St., Newaygo, MI 49337
- Vera Wilsie Elementary School, 140 Main St., Newaygo, MI 49337

The second method will be by the method(s) checked below:

- ✓ Posting in a public, common area of the school, other than an entrance. We will post in the main office of the building.
- E-mail.
- A telephone call by which direct contact is made with a parent or guardian of a student of the school or a message is recorded on an answering machine.
- Providing the students of the school with a written notice to be delivered to their parents or guardians.
- ✓ Posting information on the school web site.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you prefer to receive the notification by first class mail, please complete the Advanced Notification form and return it to our office.

Questions may be directed to: Dr. Peggy Mathis, Superintendent, Newaygo Public Schools at telephone (231) 652-6984 or at pmathis@newaygo.net

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request.