



Annual Notification of Pesticide Applications

Dear Parent or Guardian:

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

Please be advised that New Branches Charter Academy 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, the school or daycare will provide 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 or daycare buildings or grounds. Advance notice will be provided, even during periods when not in session. Advance notice 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 advance notice to prevent injury to students, but the school or daycare will provide notice following any such application.

Advance notice of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least 2 methods by which advance notice of the applications of a pesticide will be given at least 48 hours before the application. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance of the school which is located at 3662 Poinsettia Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508. 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.
- 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 or children of the day-care center with a written notice to be delivered to their parents or guardians.
- Posting information on the school or day-care center's web site.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school or day care center 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 contact Giny Aho at the school office by calling 616-243-622.

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. Contact Terry Larkin at 616-243-6221 or by email at teresalarkin@choiceschools.com