Advocacy, Policy & Regulations
Mandating School IPM

Janet Hurley, MPA, Extension Program Specialist
Texas AgriLife Extension
Southwest Technical Resource Center for IPM in Schools
877-747-6872 schoolipm@tamu.edu

Why Mandate IPM?

- More conformity
- Better control over what products are used
- Ensure education
- Allow for advanced notification
Brief History on National Legislation

- School Environment Protection Act (SEPA)
  - 1999 introduced into both House & Senate
  - 2001 reintroduced with new language
    - Attached to No Child Left Behind Act
    - Wording changed removed from NCLB to Farm Bill 2002
  - 2003 – reintroduced Leave No Child Behind Act – passed both houses but not adopted
  - 2005 – reintroduced again, no movement

Early Adopters – 14 States w/ Laws

- Texas – 1991
  - Had lag time from law adoption – not mandated until 1995
- Michigan - 1992
- Louisiana - 1995
- West Virginia - 1996
- Maryland – 1999
- Other states: IL, KY, ME, MA, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI

- 8 States with voluntary requirements
  - AZ, CA, CT, MN, MT, OH, VT, NM
- 10- States with posting requirements
What are we mandating

- Posting and pre-notification
  - Products that are exempt from notification
- Reentry requirements
  - Beyond label requirements
  - Restrict student occupancy
- Defining products to use
  - Low-toxic, least hazardous, exempt
- What is IPM
  - Definition of what is expected
- Training for school staff

Posting

- Outdoors
  - 16 states mandate type of signs to be used
  - Majority of states have some advance notice
  - Example: signs will be placed at the location of the application and each entry point
- Indoors
  - 17 states advanced interior postings
  - Example: at least 24 hours before the application of a pesticide . . . . Notice will be made
Pre-notification – 24 states w/ mandate

• Registry of parents/students
  – CA – to “everyone” written notification addressing – expected pesticide use for the school year – maintain a registry of parents to be notified in advance of any pesticide application made of their child's campus

• Beyond advance posting
  – Placement either in student handbook or separate letter home to parents

Sample statement from TASB

• As part of an Integrated Pest Management program, Plano ISD has a policy that requires the use of nonchemical pest control tactics whenever practical. However, pesticides may periodically be applied.
• The district applies only pest control products that comply with state and federal guidelines. All persons performing Pest Management at this district are required to receive special training in current pest management practices and pesticide application. Except in an emergency, signs will be posted 48 hours before application. Parents who want to be notified prior to pesticide application inside their child's school assignment area or who have further questions about pesticide use, including the types and timing of treatments, may contact their Campus Administrators or Facilities Services at (469)752-0180 or FAX (469)752-0181.
Reentry Requirements – Beyond Label

(1) Advance notification of pesticide use.
   (a) If a pesticide is to be applied in or around a school, an advance notification of pesticide use shall be given or sent by the school at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the pesticide application to all staff members, health professionals assigned to provide services at the school and parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school as determined by the contact information maintained on file. Notice shall not be required if:
   1. A pesticide is to be applied at a time the school is not in session under the calendar set by the school board; and
   2. Persons other than the applicators and the minimum number of school staff necessary to allow the applications are not scheduled to be in the building during the application and for at least twenty-four (24) hours after the application.

Defining product use

- Low-impact, exempt, least hazardous materials, Green, Yellow, Red
- Explains to applicators first choice
  - Baits, pastes, gels
  - 25b
  - Anti-microbial agents like disinfectants
    - Boric acid, DE, disodium octoborate tetrahydrate
    - Botanical insecticides, not including synthetic pyrethroids, without toxic synergists
Defining IPM

• 9 states define what is IPM
• Definition allows those states to interpret IPM steps

Training Staff

• 7 states require this for IPM Coordinator
• Education is essential
• 25 states require additional training for pesticide applicators
Why mandate?

• More uniform success
  – Regulated and posted use of times and treatments
  – Limiting product use by setting categories

• Protects more people at one time
  – Parental prenotification
  – 24 – 48 hour all posting

• Allows for education for a process that is life learning – IPM
  – Mandating education for school and industry designees makes sense
  – Introduction of IPM to all school staff

Incentives for All

• Several states have their own recognition program
  – CA, NC, TX, PA, FL, TN

• 30 school systems/child care qualified under IPM Star
  – 10 Military installations
  – 5 states with laws (9)
    • MD, NY, ME, PA, TX
  – 7 states with voluntary recommendations (11)
    • AL, IA, AZ, WI, IN, UT, WA
More to come

- White paper
- Topic covered at the 6th International IPM Symposium, "Transcending Boundaries," March 24-26, 2009 at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon