

Bemidji Public Schools
Annual Health & Safety Notifications
2023-2024

Integrated Pest Management Pesticide Notification

Minnesota Law requires schools to inform parents and guardians if they apply certain pesticides on school property. Bemidji Area Schools utilizes a licensed, professional pest control service for the prevention and control of rodents, insects and other pests in and around district buildings.

This program consists of:

1. Inspection and monitoring to determine whether pests are present and whether any treatment is needed.
2. Recommendations for maintenance to help eliminate pests without the need for pest control Materials.
3. Utilization of non-chemical measures such as traps, caulking and screening.
4. Application of EPA – registered pest control materials when needed.

Pests sting, bite, cause contamination, damage property and spread disease. Therefore, we must prevent and control them. The long-term health effects on children from the application of such pest control materials, or the class of materials to which they belong, may not be fully understood.

All pest control materials are chosen and applied according to label directions per Federal Law. An estimated schedule of interior pest control inspections and possible treatment is available for review at the District Safety Office, located at 511 3rd St, NW. A similar schedule is available for herbicides and other materials for school grounds. Parents of students may request to receive, at their expense, prior notification of any applications of a pest control material, should such an application be deemed necessary on a day different from the days specified on the schedule.

To be notified about pesticide applications or the management plan, please contact the District's Safety Manager at 218-333-3149.

Indoor Air Quality Annual Notification

Bemidji Area Schools has an Indoor Air Quality Plan in place that will help monitor and improve the quality of air in all school district buildings. Our goal is to provide a safe, comfortable and productive environment for our students and staff so that we achieve our core mission - educating students.

The objectives of the IAQ Plan are to:

1. Reduce the levels of indoor air pollution through prevention measures such as routine maintenance activities, periodic building evaluations and inspections, as well as IAQ specific policies.
2. Provide and maintain adequate fresh air exchange by repairing and maintaining ventilation equipment
3. Respond to IAQ related questions, concerns and problems in a thorough and prompt manner and to communicate the progress of investigations and their resolutions to all interested parties.
4. Follow all U.S. Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) regulations and guidelines

The School District's Administration and School Board Members are committed to providing the necessary support to meet the School District's IAQ Management Plan objectives.

Questions or concerns regarding the District's IAQ plan, policies and procedures should be directed to the District's Safety Manager at 333-3149.

Lead-in-Water Annual Notification

Minnesota Statute 121A.335 requires public school buildings serving prekindergarten through grade 12 to test for lead in water every 5 years. Bemidji Area Schools has historically conducted and continues to conduct Lead in Drinking Water testing per the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines.

For more information on Bemidji Area Schools lead reduction program and testing results, please contact the District's Safety Manager at 218-333-3149.

AHERA Annual Asbestos Notification

The following asbestos management plan activities have been put in place in Bemidji Area Schools, pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency 40 CFR Part 763- "Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools; Final Rule and Notice."

- Periodic surveillance
- Notification of Asbestos Locations for Short-Term Workers (Electricians, Plumbers, etc.)
- Training of District Personnel

Bemidji Area Schools has contracted through the Institute for Environmental Assessment (IEA) to provide Environmental, Health and Safety consulting services, including being involved in the above listed activities.

The complete updated Asbestos management plan can be found in the Bemidji Area Schools Safety Office at 511 3 rd St. NW.

Any questions concerning this notice or an explanation of our Asbestos Management Plan can be directed to the District's Safety Manager at 218-333-3149.