

Onondaga County Directive

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE MANUAL

SUBJECT: Pest Management and Control Directive

SUPERCEDES: Policy/Procedure memo 4/9/1998

PAGE: 600.00

SIGNED: *Joanne M. Mahoney*
County Executive

DATE: 7/13/09

DIRECTIVE:

It is necessary to balance the need to control harmful and nuisance pests with the potential hazards involved in the use of chemical pesticides. The County of Onondaga deems it prudent to employ pest control strategies which are the least hazardous to human health and the environment.

The concept of integrated pest management (IPM) promotes pest control strategies which are the least hazardous to human health and the environment by placing priority on the prevention of pest problems without undue reliance on the use of chemical pesticides.

The County of Onondaga is in a position to promote, by example and action, the use of alternatives to chemical pesticides to all residential, municipal, commercial and industrial sectors of the County.

The County Executive of the County of Onondaga directs each and every Department, Board, Agency and Commission of the County of Onondaga, under her jurisdiction, to use "integrated pest management" as the preferred method of pest control, and to minimize to the greatest extent practical the use of chemical pest controls and thereby reduce the health and environmental risks associated with pest control.

PROCEDURE:

Integrated pest management shall mean the use of a variety of economical and environmentally sensitive strategies to prevent and to control pests. These strategies shall employ non-toxic or where necessary and in the public interest the least toxic means available to accomplish pest control. These strategies shall include but shall not be limited to: 1) regular monitoring and evaluation so as to enable early detection; 2) mechanical controls such as manual removal, barriers, and traps; 3) biological controls and 4) least toxic chemical controls where pesticides are deemed necessary. These strategies shall minimize the reliance upon routine application of chemical pesticides while maximizing the use of other preventive and responsive measures.

County officers and employees and persons under contract to the County shall use the following as guidelines regarding the use of chemical pesticides:

1. All Federal, State and local laws pertaining to the use of pesticides must be complied with.

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2. To facilitate such compliance it shall be the responsibility of each County department and agency involved in the use of chemical pesticides to establish internal policies and procedures as may be needed to assure that detailed records of chemical pesticide use are generated and maintained. Such records shall be kept as active files by each department and agency for a period of at least three (3) years. Such records shall detail the purpose for using the chemical pest control, the target organism, the name of the chemical pest control, the EPA registration number, and the date and the location of the use of the chemical pesticides. A copy of all such records will be provided annually to the County Health Department, Division of Environmental Health, no later than February 1st of each year and shall be kept by the Health Department for a period of ten (10) years.
3. All departments that employ pest control measures shall designate an Integrated Pest Management Coordinator to ensure adherence to the County's pest control directive objectives.
4. Chemical pesticides should be purchased and used by the County only where feasible alternatives are not available.
5. Any chemical pesticide used should have the least acute and chronic toxic effects of possible choices available to achieve necessary levels of control. The County Health Department, upon request, will assist departments in identifying chemical pesticides that have the least acute and chronic toxic effects.
6. All County officers and employees engaged in the application of chemical pesticides shall be trained and certified, or will be under the supervision of individuals trained and certified in conformity with State and Federal regulations.
7. It shall be the responsibility of each contractor to ensure that all persons under contract to the County engaged in the application of chemical pesticides shall be trained and certified in conformity with State and Federal regulations. This requirement will be a contractual obligation in each such contract entered into after the effective date of this Directive.
8. Pest management contracts entered into after the effective date of this Directive must clearly specify that it is the County's intent to minimize the reliance upon routine application of pesticides while maximizing the use of other preventive and responsive pest control measures. Such

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contracts will include performance standards based on the elimination or control of infestations to acceptable levels, and not upon the number of pesticide applications.

9. Use of least toxic chemical controls, when deemed necessary and in the public interest, should be applied to affected areas only and in a site-specific manner and only in kinds, rates and amounts necessary to adequately control target pests under given circumstances.
10. Individuals who request it shall have access to information about the chemical pesticide(s) in use subject to any restriction, terms and conditions of applicable state and federal laws governing the release of such information.

This Directive shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect unless revoked or modified by the County Executive.