

**EMERGENCY PESTICIDE/HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS  
TO SCHOOL FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS**

The Board of Education recognizes there is no greater concern than the safety of students, staff, residents and others who utilize the facilities and grounds of the North Colonie Central School District. To this end, the Board, authorizes the limited and prudent use of pesticides/herbicides (such as exempt insecticides, fungicides, pesticides, herbicides and plant growth regulators) only when necessary to ensure environmentally safe buildings and grounds.

Use of a prohibited pesticide/herbicide is allowed, when a determination is made that an emergency application is needed. The Board of Education authorized the Director of Facilities or the Director of Custodial Services to use an in-house certified pesticide/herbicide applicator or to contract with a certified pesticide/applicator for dealing with biting or stinging insects that are immediately dangerous to the students, faculty and staff of the school district. Applications using more than 18 ounces of an aerosol spray may be made prior to informing the Board of Education; however, the Board of Education must be made aware of such an application as soon as possible. Applications using aerosol sprays in 18 ounce cans or smaller to protect individuals from imminent threat from a stinging or biting insect (venomous spiders, bees, wasps and hornets) do not need approval from the Board of Education.

All other emergency pesticide/herbicide applications must be determined by the Board of Education. If a determination has been made that a pesticide/herbicide application to our playgrounds, turf, athletic or playing fields is necessary for aesthetic purposes or to control organisms that are not immediately dangerous to life and health, per environmental Conservation law, the Board of Education must determine if this is an emergency and approve such application prior to the application being made. NYSDEC guidance states the following are not generally considered emergencies:

- Routine or repetitive problems;
- Pests which can be managed in other ways;
- Pesticide application for purely aesthetic purposes.

“Child Safe Playing Fields Act”:

Environmental Conservation La, Chapter 85, Laws of 2010, which amended Education Law § 409-k

Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law:

Environmental Conservation Law, §§33-0301[2][m], 33-0303[3][d]. [e]0Part 325

Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law:

Education law § 409-h

Environmental Conservation law Chapter 285 of the Laws of 2000, § 33-1004 and 33-1005

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