

2020-2021 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Notification

Parents, Students, Faculty and Staff of Cushing Independent School District

Cushing ISD conducts regular pest management inspections and service. These service(s) may include inspections, pest exclusion, use of mechanical pest control devices, and occasional bait, dust, and pesticide spray applications. As required by law, Cushing ISD is providing notification that the district periodically applies pesticides at our school facilities. Signs will be posted to meet the requirements of the Texas Department of Agriculture's (TDA) Structural Pest Control Service (SPCS). Postings will be placed in the administration office that indicates scheduled treatments and we will post additional pesticide applications online and in the same location for extenuating circumstances requiring unplanned treatments. Information regarding the times and type of pesticide applications made may be obtained from the district's Integrated Pest Management Coordinator:

Michael S. Davis – IPM Coordinator – (936) 326-4890 – mdavis@cushingisd.org

ATTENTION

Pesticide Spraying

Town & Country Pest Management will perform pest control treatments the first weekend of each month of the 2020-2021 school year. The treatments will not begin prior to 3:30 PM on the following dates:

September 4, 2020	October 2, 2020	November 6, 2020	December 4, 2020	January 1, 2021	February 5, 2021
March 5, 2021	April 2, 2021	May 7, 2021	June 4, 2021	July 2, 2021	August 7, 2021

What is Integrated Pest Management?

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a pest control method that uses alternatives to scheduled spraying of pesticides. Cushing ISD has adopted an IPM program to reduce the use of chemicals and provide economical and effective pest suppression. It promotes reduced dependence on pesticides in school buildings and landscapes and the use of alternative methods for managing pests commonly found in schools.

The District's Policy

Cushing ISD has a policy that requires us to follow integrated pest management or (IPM) procedures to control pest on school grounds. This district strives to use the safest effective methods to manage pest, including a variety of non-chemical control measures; however pesticide use is sometimes necessary to maintain adequate pest control and assure a safe, pest-free school environment.

All pesticides used in our district are registered for their intended use by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and are applied only by certified pesticide applicators. Prior to indoor applications, signs will be posted 48 hours in advance of the treatment. All outdoor applications will be posted at the time of the treatment and signs will remain until it is safe to enter the area. Parents with further questions, or who wish to be notified directly about upcoming pesticide applications on their children's campus, can contact the District IPM Coordinator at (936) 326-4890 or e-mail at mdavis@cushingisd.org.

The Student's Role

The most important responsibility of the student is sanitation. Much of the prevention and reduction of pests at the school site depends on whether or not students clean up food leftovers, food in lockers, gum under desks, and paper clutter, etc. In addition, because students may observe the presence of pests, they should report any evidence of pests to their teachers. The more the students help, the better we can avoid the use of pesticides at our school sites.

The Parent's Role

The parents' first responsibility is to learn about IPM practices and follow them at home so that pests are not carried to school in notebooks, lunch boxes, clothing, or in children's hair. Second, parents should be aware of the current pest management practices in their children's schools. Our schools welcome questions from parents.

Additional Contact information:

- Town and Country Pest Management: 1 (936) 326-9431
- Licensed Pesticide Information Center: 1 (800) 858-7378
- For all emergencies, please contact: 911