

Madrone Trail Public Waldorf School

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy

1. Policy Statement

Madrone Trail Public Waldorf School is committed to maintaining a healthy, safe, and nurturing educational environment. In alignment with Waldorf values of care for human health and the environment, this IPM Policy promotes pest prevention and management with the least possible risk to students, staff, and the surrounding ecosystem.

This policy complies with Oregon's Integrated Pest Management laws (ORS 634.700–634.750) and requirements for schools.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Reduce pest-related risks through effective non-chemical management strategies
- Minimize exposure to pesticides for children, staff, and visitors
- Ensure pest control decisions are transparent, responsible, and legally compliant
- Protect buildings, grounds, and indoor environments from pest damage

3. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All indoor and outdoor areas of the school property
- All pest management efforts undertaken by school staff, volunteers, or contractors
- All facilities used by students and staff, including classrooms, kitchens, play areas, gardens, and athletic fields

4. IPM Guiding Principles

The school's pest management approach will:

1. Prioritize prevention, sanitation, exclusion, and habitat modification
2. Use monitoring and identification before taking action
3. Prefer non-chemical and least-toxic options
4. Limit pesticide use only when necessary to protect health or safety
5. Follow all Oregon pesticide application, notification, and recordkeeping laws

5. Selected Prevention & Nonchemical Strategies

To reduce the need for pesticides, the school will:

- Maintain cleanliness in classrooms and eating areas

- Store food in sealed containers
- Ensure waste disposal and recycling are handled routinely
- Repair structural gaps, screens, and other pest entry points
- Manage moisture and leaks to prevent mold or insect attractants
- Encourage biodiversity in garden and outdoor spaces

6. Oregon Legal Requirements for Pesticide Use in Schools

Under Oregon's IPM in schools law:

a. Use of Low-Impact Pesticides Only

If a pesticide must be applied due to an urgent health or safety concern, only products on the school's approved low-impact pesticide list may be used, as defined by ORS 634.705(5).

b. Licensed Applicators Required

Any person applying pesticides on school property must hold a valid Oregon pesticide applicator license issued by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA).

7. Notification & Posting Requirements

The school will comply with Oregon's notification rules, including:

- Providing written notice to parents, staff, and students at least 24 hours prior to any pesticide application on campus (unless waived for pest emergencies).
- Posting warning signs around treated areas at least 24 hours before application and leaving them in place for a minimum of 72 hours after application.
- Notification must include: product name, EPA registration number, anticipated date/time, reason for treatment, and contact information.

8. Pest Emergencies

In rare cases where immediate action is needed to protect student or staff health (e.g., stinging insects inside occupied buildings):

- The IPM Coordinator may authorize emergency treatment
- Documentation of the emergency and response actions must be included in IPM records

9. Recordkeeping

The IPM Coordinator will maintain records of:

- Pest sightings & monitoring logs
- Notifications issued
- Sign postings dates/times
- Pesticide applications (product, applicator license info, location, quantity, efficacy)
- Low-impact pesticide list and updates

Records will be kept for at least four years and be available to the school community on request.

10. Website Posting Requirements (Effective 2026)

In accordance with updates to Oregon's IPM law, the school will:

- Post its IPM Plan and adopted low-impact pesticide list on the school's public website (either independently or as part of the Healthy and Safe Schools Plan).

11. Roles & Responsibilities

IPM Coordinator

- Oversees implementation of the IPM Policy
- Ensures compliance with Oregon laws and rules
- Coordinates notifications and records

Staff & Teachers

- Support pest prevention practices
- Report pest issues promptly

Contractors

- Must inform the IPM Coordinator of any planned pesticide use
- Must comply with Oregon notification and posting laws

12. Community Education

The school will share this policy with families annually and include information at orientation and on the school website. Oregon IPM resources and educational materials may be shared with staff, students, and families to support understanding of healthy pest management practices.

13. Policy Review

This IPM Policy will be reviewed and updated at least once every five years, or more frequently as necessary to reflect changes in law, best practices, or community feedback.

Adopted January 2026