

MechSE WELLness

X07 Pesticide Use

Intent: Reduce the presence of pests in the building and when necessary the use of low hazard pesticides.

Pesticides have been linked to a wide range of health problems. For example, there has been a consistent link between an increased risk of birth defects resulting from parental exposure to pesticides. Animal data and in-vitro work suggest chronic pesticide exposures might be associated with learning and behavioral problems [e.g. attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and other neurological deficits].

Impact: Pest prevention reduces the need for pesticide use, which along with the use of low hazard pesticides and notice of application, can meaningfully reduce the risk of exposure.

What are the requirements to earn this credit?

1. Develop an Integrated Pesticide Management Plan that minimizes exposure to pesticide hazards.
2. If pesticide is to be used at a planned time or an emergency, provide potentially affected occupants 24-hour advanced or immediate notice and post signs at building entrances. Such notification communication must include pesticide name, registration number, treatment location, and date of application.

How is MechSE accomplishing these requirements?

MechSE has a policy that aligns our efforts with those of the campus. The Campus Water Station uses an integrated pest management plan that can be found online or in our policy. If any hazardous pesticide is to be used, advanced notice will be provided to the department. We can all assist in reducing pests by keeping any food or drink sealed, disposing of any food or drink at hallway trash receptacles that are maintained daily, and informing MechSE Facilities if office trash is not disposed of on a regular basis by campus janitorial staff. Additionally, informing MechSE Facilities of any water leaks, any insects or rodents, etc. will help them address it before it may become an infestation.



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