



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**Department of Food and Agriculture
Pesticide Bureau**

251 Causeway St. Boston, MA 02114
Phone: 617-626-1781 Fax: 617-626-1850 Web: www.mass.gov/dfa



Consumer Information Bulletin

For Building Managers and Landlords

Massachusetts “Regulations 333 CMR 13.10 Relative to the Commercial Application of Pesticides to Indoor Settings” requires you to receive this information bulletin.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Ask the Pest Management Professional (PMP) to discuss IPM and non-chemical steps you should take to avoid or reduce a pest problem. A PMP can assist you with any pest problem and how to solve it. You may also want to contact one of the numbers listed below for guidance. For more information on IPM go to the Department’s website at www.mass.gov/dfa.

Q. What is required by your pest management professional (Regulation 333 CMR 13.10)?

A.

- >> You must be provided with approved bulletin before entering into or renewing an agreement to apply pesticides for the control of indoor household or structural pests. (333 CMR 13.10 (c) 1)

- >> Before beginning each application, the applicator must post a Department approved notice on all of the entrances to the treated room or area. The applicator must leave such notices posted after the application. (333 CMR 13.10 (c) 2) The notice will be posted at conspicuous point(s) of access to the area treated. The location and number of signs will be determined by the configuration of the area to be treated based on the applicator’s best judgment. It is intended to give sufficient notice that no one comes into an area being treated unaware that the applicator is working and pesticides are being applied. Pesticide gels and baits are exempt from this requirement.

- >> The applicator or employer will provide to any person upon their request the following information on previously conducted applications:
 1. Specific location(s) treated including location(s) of rodenticide bait stations;
 2. Date and time of the application;
 3. Pesticide applied which shall include disclosing the brand name, active ingredient(s), EPA Registration Number and providing a copy of the label.(333 CMR 13.10 (c) 3)

- >> Public Buildings - Applicators or their employers will provide pre-notification to any person upon their request. Pre-notification will include the date of the next treatment, the locations to be treated, and potential pesticide(s) that may be used. (333 CMR 13.10 (d))
- >> Residential Units – The applicator or their employers shall pre-notify the occupants of residential units between seven (7) days and forty-eight (48) hours prior to any routine commercial application of pesticides for the control of indoor household or structural indoor pests through the distribution of a Department approved notification form to each unit.

Notification may take any form (phone call, letter, etc.). The intent is that individuals, who wish to avoid exposure or want to avoid encountering the applicator, can make necessary arrangements.

Applicators are required by law to follow all directions on the pesticide label and must take all steps necessary to avoid applications with people present in a room or area to be treated. Individuals occupying a room or area to be treated at the time of application shall be informed of the procedure. (333 CMR 13.10 (2) (a))

Whenever possible, the applicator should not apply pesticides with anyone present. That may mean treating other areas and returning when occupants have left, asking people to leave the area while the work is being done, or treating before or after people occupy the room. If people do not leave, the applicator must make it clear that he is there to apply pesticides. The applicator will be prepared to provide whatever information possible about the pesticides and techniques used.

Q. What if I have a problem or a question?

A. The Department of Food and Agriculture regulates the use of pesticides in Massachusetts. It is a violation of the law to use a pesticide inconsistent with the label directions. All commercial pesticide applicators must have a valid Pesticide Applicator License issued by the Department. Consumers should check to insure that the applicator is licensed or certified. If you suspect that your applicator is unlicensed or a misuse has occurred please contact the Department of Food and Agriculture. If you have any further questions or concerns about pesticides or the application of pesticides you should contact your pest management professional or you can contact the following:

- >> Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau (617) 626-1700
- >> EPA National Pesticide Information Center (800) 858-7378
- >> Massachusetts Poison Information Center (617) 232-2120
- >> Department of Public Health/Bureau of Environmental Health Assessment (617) 624-5757

If you have a contractual problem with a pest control company, please contact the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office of Consumer Affairs at (617) 727-8400 or the Better Business Bureau at (617) 426-9000 and (413) 734-3114.

Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau: www.state.ma.us/dfa/legal/regs/pesticides_regulations_list.htm
 Massachusetts Pesticide Regulations: www.state.ma.us/dfa/legal/regs/pesticides_regulations_list.htm
 EPA- www.epa.gov/ebtpages/pesticides.html
 EXTTOXNET- <http://ace.orst.edu/info/exttoxnet/>

Updated March 1, 2003