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DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES  
251 CAUSEWAY STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
002114-1598



DOUGLAS P. GILLESPIE  
COMMISSIONER  
(617) 626-1700  
www.mass.gov/agr

January 20, 2004

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Principal/Administrator

Dear Principal/Administrator \_\_\_\_\_:

In May 2000, the Massachusetts legislature passed the Children's Protection Act, Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000 (effective November 1, 2000), requiring schools, day care centers, and school age child care programs, to implement pest management strategies that minimize the risks to children from exposure to pesticides in school settings.

The Children's Protection Act, G.L. c. 132B, §§ 6C to 6J (Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000), requires, among other things, that schools prepare integrated pest management (IPM) plans that address pest control issues in a manner that responds to environmental and public health and safety concerns, and that they file these IPM plans annually with the Pesticide Bureau (this may be done electronically or by mail). The law also requires that written notice be posted 72 hours before pesticides are applied on school grounds (and that they remain posted for 72 hours thereafter), unless emergency conditions justify their immediate use, in which case the school must request a single-use waiver pursuant to G.L. c. 132B, § 6H, before applying the pesticide. More information is available at <http://mass.gov/agr/ipm>. This website includes step-by-step guidance to help you to develop your school's IPM plan online, and lists those schools that have not submitted the required IPM plans.

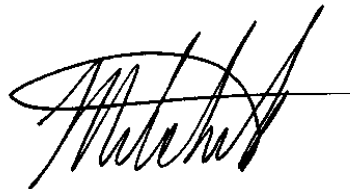
According to records maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, as of the date of this letter your school has not developed and implemented an IPM plan as required by law. We are concerned that by failing to do so, the children in your school are not receiving the level of protection that the legislature intended in passing the Children's Protection Act.

The Department of Agricultural Resources and the Attorney General's Office are committed to ensuring compliance with this important public health and safety measure. Accordingly, please notify us in writing within ten days of your school's intentions regarding compliance with the Children's Protection Act. If you believe you are already in compliance, please call (617) 626-1775 to check on your status.

Sincerely,



I. Andrew Goldberg  
Assistant Attorney General  
Environmental Protection Division  
Massachusetts Attorney General's Office  
One Ashburton Place, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02108



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