



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/agr](http://www.mass.gov/agr)



---

## **Consumer Information Bulletin**

### **For Building Managers and Landlords**

Massachusetts “Regulations 333 CMR 13.08 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/agr](http://www.mass.gov/agr).

#### **Q. What is required by your pest management professional (Regulation 333 CMR 13.08)?**

- 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 13.08.
- 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. 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. However, if the contracting entity does not want the signs posted, he/she may sign a Department approved waiver indicating this.
  - The applicator or employer will provide to any person upon their request the following information on previously conducted applications:
    1. Name and phone number of pest control company
    2. Date and time of the application;
    3. Name and license number of the applicator
    4. Target pests
    5. Name and EPA Registration Number of pesticide products applied
  - Public Buildings - Applicators or their employers will provide pre-notification to any person upon their request. Pre-notification will include:
    1. Name and phone number of the company making the application
    2. Proposed date of application
    3. Locations to be treated; and
    4. Name, EPA Registration Number, and active ingredients of the products being used

- 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 application. The notification must include the following:
  1. Name and phone number of company making the application
  2. Proposed date and time of application
  3. Locations to be treated
  4. Product names, EPA Registration Numbers, and active ingredients for the pesticide products that may be used
  5. Purpose of application
  6. Preparation procedures required by the pesticide label to protect items such as food, utensils, and pests; and
  7. Department approved Consumer Information Bulletin

The notification must be made in writing. The intent is so 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.

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 Agricultural Resources 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) 626-1781
- 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](http://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](http://www.state.ma.us/dfa/legal/regs/pesticides_regulations_list.htm)  
 EPA- [www.epa.gov/eftpages/pesticides.html](http://www.epa.gov/eftpages/pesticides.html)  
 EXTTOXNET- <http://ace.orst.edu/info/extoxnet/>

August 1, 2007