

ADDENDUM TO DECEMBER 13, 2006 MYCA ACTION BULLETIN RE: Board of Pesticides Rule on Licensed Pesticide Applicators

There have been a number of questions about the information distributed on the regulations for camps and other public places to use licensed pesticide applicators.

If a camp is ONLY using the following pest abatement procedures, a licensed applicator is NOT required:

- Stinging insect control with ready-to-use product (for example, spraying bees & wasps & their nests)
- Traps – mechanical traps to catch mice, rats etc alive or to kill them. Only food or non-chemical baits can be used. There are mechanical traps that are reusable and have a shield over the top so the dead animal cannot be seen.
- Sticky traps - used both for trapping and for pest monitoring
- Fly paper
- Everyone applies his/her own personal bug repellent
- Bug zappers (of questionable value)
- Exclusion of pests through blocking or covering holes, or using steel or copper wool to block holes.
- Use of window & door screens
- **Biggest exemption for camps: A licensed applicator is NOT NEEDED when the area treated is closed to the public for a minimum of 7 days. This allows pre-camp pest elimination to continue by an unlicensed person. Also, no license is needed any time during the summer when a camp is closed for at least 7 days following the application.**
- **THE BOTTOM LINE: IF NO CHEMICALS/PESTICIDES ARE USED, A LICENSED PESTICIDE APPLICATOR IS NOT NEEDED.**

WHAT CHOICES DO CAMPS HAVE?



- Contract out all pest management.
- Have a staff person certified as a licensed Commercial Pesticide Applicator. Follow state rules.
- Use the 7-day treatment exemption to treat infestations prior to camp, and do not treat when children are in residence, OR use non-chemical abatement practices, OR use a contracted pest management company over the summer when needed.
- Learn and practice ONLY non-chemical pest abatement practices as described above when camp is in session or staff are present.

CAN YOU GIVE ME EXAMPLES OF WHEN I NEED TO UTILIZE A LICENSED PESTICIDE APPLICATOR?

While campers/staff are present, if you are using any of the following:

- foggers, sprays or other powered chemicals for general insect or weed control,
- plant disease protectants (rose sprays etc)
- insect sprays, granules or dust (Raid, Safer Soap, DeCon)
- De-Con or ant cups anywhere on campus
- roach baits or sprays
- mouse or rat poisons
- other chemical pesticides not specifically listed here
- **THEN, YOU ARE USING CHEMICAL PESTICIDES, AND THE LICENSURE RULES APPLY TO YOUR SITUATION.**

The Maine Youth Camping Association hopes this clarifies the situation for camps in general, but any further questions about your specific situation should be directed to the State Bureau of Pesticides Control, Maine Board of Pesticides website: www.thinkfirstspraylast.org. Gary Fish, Board of Pesticides Control, 207-287-7545, gary.fish@maine.gov.