

PESTICIDE POLICY FOR CITY OF LANCASTER, PA NOVEMBER 2015

Pesticide Application

The City of Lancaster strives to be environmentally responsible in its application of pesticides, which are used as minimally as possible to help manage undesirable vegetation and other pests that create public safety hazards. All pesticide applications and notifications are conducted in accordance with Pennsylvania's statute on pesticide use, [Title 7 PA Code § 128, February 2, 1990](#), which also mandates the pesticide hypersensitivity registry. Pesticide, as defined by the State of Pennsylvania and herein, is any "substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest," which includes "any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life" ([Pennsylvania Pesticide Control Act of 1973](#)).

Prior Notification

A commercial or public applicator is required by the state to give prior notification. If restricted use pesticides will be applied prior notification is given either in the form of a notice published in two local newspapers, or to each individual residing on land contiguous to the application, depending on whether it's a right-of-way, agricultural or non-agricultural sites. For parks and open spaces, the applicators may post a sign at the entry of application in lieu of other forms of notification listed above. Notification of a proposed application shall be given no more than 45 days and no less than 14 days prior to application date and include the following information: date of application; municipalities where the application site is located; and the name, address and telephone number of the pesticide application business for additional information.

Pesticide Hypersensitivity Registry

According to state law, Individuals who are listed on the registry must receive notification between 12 hours and 72 hours prior to a pesticide application if it will be within 500 feet of the person's property line. Individuals who wish to be included on the registry must have their hypersensitivity to pesticides verified by a physician. Contact the PA Department of Agriculture to be added to the registry. The state requires that a physician to verify the hypersensitivity. To remain on the list you must renew annually in the month of October. To learn more about the hypersensitivity registry, please see the PA State Code [Title 7 PA Code § 128, Sections 111-112](#) or the Penn State Agricultural Extension's [hypersensitivity fact sheet and application](#). Finally, you can call the PA Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Division of Health and Safety at 717-772-5231 Ext. 2.

Additionally, the City of Lancaster, will strive to have at least one Public Works staff member who holds a Pesticide Applicators certification. The certified staff member will apply the pesticides in a strategic and environmentally friendly manner. They will accomplish this by applying the material "as-needed" and keep the application as close to minimal as possible. The City of Lancaster will keep up-to-date records of the pesticide hypersensitivity registry, which are provided twice a year by the State, in order to avoid application within 500 feet of the registrant's property line.