



## Green Child Care Related State and Local Laws

April, 2015

- California's Flame Retardant Labeling Law requires labeling on upholstered furniture to tell shoppers whether it contains toxic flame retardant chemicals. The law took effect January, 2015.
  - Pending: As of February, 2015, a new California bill has been introduced as an extension to the Flame Retardant Labeling Law. This new bill, SB 763 (Leno), requires manufacturers of certain products for infants and children to disclose on a label whether or not the products contain flame retardant chemicals.
- Amendments to the Healthy Schools Act (HSA) went into effect on January 1, 2015. These amendments are in addition to the current HSA requirements. Under the new law, school sites (**licensed child care centers** and public K-12 schools) must meet three new requirements, briefly described below.

Starting January 1, 2015, if you plan to apply pesticides that are not exempt, you must do the following:

1. Develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan. Use the integrated pest management (IPM) plan template provided by the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to develop an IPM plan for your school site. The IPM plan must be posted on the district's or school site's Web site, or, if no Web site exists, sent out to all parents, guardians, and staff with the annual pesticide notice. The template is available on the DPR School IPM Web site.
2. Report Pesticide Use. Send pesticide use reports not less than annually to DPR for pesticides that are not exempt that are applied by school employees. DO NOT report pesticide applications performed by hired applicators; DPR already receives these reports directly from the pest control business. Reports are due no later than January 30 for the previous calendar year's data and must be submitted on a form provided by DPR. The first reports are due January 30, 2016, and will include use from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2015. The form is available on the DPR School IPM Web site.

After July 1, 2016, you must do the following if you apply any pesticide:

3. Receive IPM Training. Complete DPR-approved training in school IPM and in the safe use of pesticides in relation to the unique nature of schools and children's health before applying a pesticide. Each school site's IPM coordinator and all school or child care center employees or any other unlicensed person who will be applying pesticides must receive this HSA training annually. The approved courses that meet this HSA requirement will be listed on the DPR School IPM Web site when available but no later than spring of 2016. One approved training is available through the state-wide UC IPM program: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/training/school-and-child-care-ipm.html>. Note: Professional applicators must also receive this DPR-approved training before applying a pesticide at a school site.
- Smoking Prohibition Inside Family Child Care Homes prohibits smoking tobacco in the homes of licensed family child care homes at all times and in areas where children are present. Previously, smoking in licensed family child care homes was banned during the hours of operation and where children were present. The intent of the bill is to reduce the negative impacts of third hand smoke. Third hand smoke is described as toxic chemicals left on surfaces, such as furniture, carpets, and walls, from smoking. Recent research from UC Berkeley finds that the lingering harmful residue from smoking becomes more noxious and potent over time, and is potentially more dangerous to a person's health than acute smoke or second hand smoke exposure. Children, particularly infants and toddlers, are at greater risk than adults of inhaling or swallowing harmful chemicals from third hand smoke as they often put their hands and toys in their mouths. Moreover, they are more vulnerable from the harmful effects of these chemicals due to their developing immune system. AB 1819 became effective January 1, 2015.
  - Mandatory Recycling and Composting in Alameda County: The easiest way to see what you are responsible for under the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance is to visit the My Recycling Rules page at Recycling Rules Alameda County: <http://www.recyclingrulesac.org/my-recycling-rules/>.