

Pesticide Use Notification Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

This Pesticide Use Notification Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2009 (the Regulation). The Plan sets out how TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute (TAFE Illawarra) will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made to public places that it owns or controls.

The aim of this Plan is to meet the community's general right to know about pesticide applications made to outdoor public places that are owned or controlled by public authorities. The Plan allows members of the community to take action to avoid contact with pesticides, if they wish. TAFE Illawarra ensures that pesticides are applied to public places in a safe, responsible manner, minimising harm to the community or the environment.

This Plan describes:

- The public places to which it applies
- The estimated level of use of campus grounds by members of the public
- How and when TAFE Illawarra will provide the community with information about its pesticide applications in public places (i.e. what notification arrangements will be used).
- How the community can access this Plan and get more information about TAFE Illawarra's notification arrangements.
- How future reviews of the Plan will be conducted.
- Contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this Plan with TAFE Illawarra.

2. PUBLIC PLACES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

TAFE Illawarra operates campuses throughout the Illawarra, South Coast and Southern Highlands Regions. This Pesticide Use Notification Plan applies to outdoor pesticide applications at the campuses set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1: TAFE Illawarra Campus Locations

Campus Name	Address
<i>Northern District</i>	
Dapto	Fowlers Road, Dapto 2530
Shellharbour	Lake Entrance Road, Warilla 2529
Wollongong	Foleys Road, Wollongong 2500
West Wollongong	36 Gladstone Avenue, Wollongong 2500
Yallah	Marshall Mount Road, Yallah 2530
<i>South Coast District</i>	
Bega	Barrack Street, Bega 2550
Moruya	Princes Highway, Moruya 2537
Nowra	60 Beinda Street, Bomaderry (Nowra) 2541
Ulladulla	156 Green Street, Ulladulla 2539
<i>Highlands District</i>	
Cooma	66 Commissioner Street, Cooma 2630
Goulburn	Cnr Verner & View Streets, Goulburn 2580
Moss Vale	Kirkham Street, Moss Vale 2577
Queanbeyan	Cnr Buttle & MacQuoid Streets, Queanbeyan 2620
Yass	51 Church Street, Yass 2582

TAFE Illawarra uses pesticides for educational purposes and for campus maintenance. Table 2 describes the categories of outdoor locations where pesticides are typically used within Institute grounds. Table 2 also provides an estimate of the level of public usage by members of the public, of each area.

Table 2: Categories of public place and estimated usage within TAFE Illawarra campuses

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place
Lawns and paved areas adjacent to outdoor seating	Students Staff Contractors General public	High Medium Low Low
Lawns / grassed areas	Students Staff Contractors General public	Medium Medium Low Low
Garden beds and landscaped areas (not lawns)	Students Staff Contractors General public	Low Low Low Low
Horticultural and agricultural areas used for educational purposes (greens, turf, livestock paddocks, stables)	Students Staff Contractors General public	Medium Medium Low Low
Exterior of buildings and ground immediately adjacent to buildings	Students Staff Contractors General public	Low Low Low Low
Roads, car parks, pathways, external stairs and other outdoor thoroughfares	Students Staff Contractors General public	Medium Medium Low to Medium Low to Medium
Ovals and other sporting fields	Students Staff Contractors General public Non-TAFE sporting groups	Medium Low Low Low Medium to High

Note that levels of usage can vary between and within campuses.

3. NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS AND INFORMATION PROVIDED

This section of the Plan describes how and when TAFE Illawarra will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including:

1. General notification requirements for medium and low use areas on Institute campuses
2. Additional notification requirements for high use or high contact areas on Institute campuses
3. Additional notification requirements for sensitive places
4. Notification measures for small applications and emergency pest control

These notification requirements are based on TAFE Illawarra's assessment of:

- the level of usage of outdoor areas on campuses where pesticides may be used

- the extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides (e.g. young children, sick, pregnant and elderly people) and are likely to use these areas regularly
- the extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides (such as areas where food is consumed or other recreational activities that result in contact with the ground)
- type of pesticide used.

These notification arrangements apply to TAFE staff, contractors, lessees and anyone else using pesticides on TAFE Illawarra campus grounds.

3.1 General notification requirements for medium and low use areas on Institute campuses

The notification arrangements described in this section apply to the following categories of outdoor area, provided that usage is considered to be medium or low:

- Lawns / grassed areas
- Garden beds and landscaped areas
- Horticultural and agricultural areas used for educational purposes (greens, turf, livestock paddocks, stables)
- Exterior of buildings and ground immediately adjacent to buildings
- Roads, car parks, pathways, external stairs and other outdoor thoroughfares
- Any other outdoor areas of a campus.

Where usage of these areas on a particular campus is considered to be high then the additional measures in section 3.2 apply.

When applications will occur in low and medium use areas the following measures will be taken:

- An email will be sent to all staff of that campus at least 24 hours before pesticide application occurs or as soon as practicable after the intention to apply pesticides is notified but before the application commences. The email will contain the information set out in (b) below. Where applications are dependent on weather or other conditions the email will indicate the time period during which application is anticipated to occur.
- Notifications to staff will contain the following information:
 - A statement that pesticide applications will be occurring on the campus during a specified date and time period
 - The location/s on campus where the application will occur
 - The full product name of the pesticide (including active ingredient if possible)
 - The purpose of the application
 - Any warnings from the pesticide label on how long the area should be avoided
 - A contact name and phone number for further information.
- At least three re-locatable signs will be placed immediately adjacent to the application area, prior to commencement, and kept in place for the duration of the application. Signs will be located so they are easily seen by passers-by. The signs will be removed once the application is completed, unless the period of avoidance required by the pesticide manufacturer is still current (in which case signs will be removed once the avoidance period has expired). The signs will contain the following information:
 - the date and time of pesticide application
 - the area to which the pesticides will be applied

- the full product name of the pesticide being used (and active ingredient if possible)
- the purpose of the use (for example, to kill weeds or insects)
- a phone number and email address for the person who can be contacted for further information about the pesticide application
- any warnings on the pesticide label about how long the area must be avoided after a pesticide application.

Where available and practicable, central noticeboards used by staff and students will have a notice in place 24 hours prior to the application occurring containing the information set out in (b) above.

3.2 Additional notification requirements for high use or high contact areas on Institute campuses

The additional notification arrangements in this section apply to:

- outdoor areas where students or staff congregate for lunch or other social or educational functions, in particular lawns and paved areas adjacent to outdoor seating or eating areas
- sporting fields and ovals where potential for contact with the ground surface during use is high (even where overall usage is medium or low).

The notification arrangements described in Section 3.1 will apply, with the following additional arrangements in place:

- d. At least two re-locatable signs will be placed in the area 24 hours prior to the application. These signs will contain the information set out in (c) above and will be located in high visibility areas within or adjacent to the proposed application location.
- e. These signs will be kept in place for 24 hours after the pesticide application has been completed unless the avoidance period required by the pesticide manufacturer is still current, in which case signs will be removed once the avoidance period has expired.
- f. In the case of sporting fields or ovals, a notice containing the information set out in (c) above will be placed on an available noticeboard associated with the sporting field or oval, should there be one. When there is no obvious notice board, contact will be made with user groups to identify suitable notification methods. The notice will be in place for the timing described in (e) above. A letter will be sent annually to all users of sporting fields and other outdoor areas indicating the manner in which notification will be provided and will include the location of notice boards and person to contact for further information on pesticide applications.

3.3 Additional notification requirements for sensitive places

A number of sensitive places are located on or adjacent to TAFE Illawarra campuses. These sensitive places are listed in Appendix 1 of this Plan. In addition to the notification arrangements set out in Section 3.1, the following arrangements will apply when pesticide application occurs on or adjacent to sensitive areas.

- g. The manager, principal or other contact person for the sensitive place will be notified in writing (or alternate contact method as nominated by that person) at least one week before planned use of pesticides in or near the area.
- h. The notification will contain the following information:
 - where the pesticide will be used
 - the full product name of the pesticide that will be used (and active ingredient if possible)
 - the purpose of the use (for example, to kill weeds or insects)

- the proposed date/s of use. Where it is not possible to provide a specific date, then a range of dates of when an application will take place should be given
- a phone number and email address for the person who can be contacted about the proposed use
- any warnings on the pesticide label about how long the area must be avoided after a pesticide application.

- i. Application will not take place until confirmation has been received by the contact person that the notification has been received.

3.4 Notification measures for small applications and emergency pest control measures

TAFE Illawarra uses small quantities of some pesticides for weed and insect control that are widely available in retail outlets and ordinarily used for domestic purposes (including home gardening). When less than one litre (made-up product or one packet) of such pesticides are applied on any given day, no notice will be given provided the following conditions are met:

- application is conducted using hand held sprays or baits readily available for domestic purposes at retail outlets
- application is not carried out within 10 metres of students or staff using outdoor areas unless students and staff present at the time of the application are advised verbally.

In cases where emergency pesticide applications are required to deal with biting or dangerous pests such as wasps, bees, venomous spiders, fleas, bird mites or rodents (that pose an immediate health hazard) one sign will be placed in the immediate area for the duration of the pesticide application and staff working in nearby buildings will be notified by email. The sign will indicate that pesticide application is currently occurring and will contain the following information:

1. Name of the pesticide (and active ingredient if possible)
2. Purpose of application
3. Significant health warnings associated with the pesticide
4. The expected duration
5. A contact name and phone number of a person who can provide further information.

These measures only apply to emergency applications. When planned pesticide applications are carried out for control of insects the notification measures described in Section 3.1 apply.

Every attempt will be made to notify the contact person for a sensitive area prior to the small or emergency applications of pesticides in or near sensitive areas.

4. HOW THE COMMUNITY WILL BE INFORMED OF THIS PLAN

TAFE Illawarra will advise the public of this Plan and its contents by:

- placing a copy of the Plan on its website (www.tafeillawarra.edu.au)
- placing a notice in the Illawarra Mercury
- placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette.

5. FUTURE REVIEWS OF THE PLAN

This Plan will be reviewed every five years or when circumstances require a review of the plan. The review will include:

- a report on progress of implementing the Plan
- invitations for public consultation on the notification methods outlined in the Plan
- in light of public submissions, making recommendation for alterations (if applicable) to the Plan.

6. CONTACT DETAILS

Anyone wishing to contact TAFE Illawarra to discuss this Pesticide Use Notification Plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications on TAFE Illawarra campuses, please contact the:

Institute Director
TAFE Illawarra
Directorate Office
3 Rowland Avenue
West Wollongong NSW 2500
Phone: 02 4222 2904
www.tafeillawarra.edu.au
or email: illa.courseinfo@tafensw.edu.au with your enquiry.

Appendix 1

Sensitive areas on or adjacent to TAFE Illawarra campuses.

The notification arrangements set out in Section 3.3 of this Plan apply to the following sensitive areas.

SENSITIVE AREA	LOCATION RELATIVE TO TAFE ILLAWARRA CAMPUS
Wollongong Campus Child Studies Play Sessions	Located on Wollongong Campus in G Block
Keira High School Lysaght Street, North Wollongong	Located adjacent to Wollongong Campus
Child Care Centre Wollongong Campus Recreation Centre	Located on Wollongong Campus in X Block
Wollongong Campus Child Care Centre	Located on Wollongong Campus in R Block
Shellharbour Campus Child Studies Play Sessions	Located on Shellharbour Campus in F Block
Shellharbour Campus Child Care Centre	Located on Shellharbour Campus in E Block
Shellharbour Public Hospital	Located adjacent to Shellharbour Campus
Nowra Campus Child Studies Play Sessions	Located on Nowra Campus in A Block
Goulburn Campus Children's Centre	Located on Goulburn Campus in F Block
Ulladulla 'Noah's Ark' Child Care Centre	Located adjacent to Ulladulla Campus