UNSW Pesticide Use Notification Plan 2023

For the campuses of Kensington, Randwick, Paddington, Manly Vale and the David Phillips Sports Field Complex

CRICOS Provider Code 00098G

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Revision History:

Rev	Date	By	Notes
1	07/2018	MC	Initial Issue
2	11/2022	MC	
3	10/2023	MC	Annual review conducted; Internal Buildings added.

1 Introduction

This pesticide use notification plan (Plan) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). The Plan sets out how The University of New South Wales (UNSW) will notify members of the community of pesticide applications it makes or allows to be made, to public places that it owns or controls.

UNSW is committed to working safely with chemicals and has established safe usage guides within its maintenance contracts to ensure there is a consistent approach to managing chemical risks. Our pesticide use is subject to these safe usage guides so that pesticides are handled in a safe, responsible manner which minimises harm to our staff, the community and the environment.

This Plan explains how UNSW will notify members of the community about pesticide applications on its public places, with the aim of providing the community with information that enables them to avoid potential contact with pesticides.

The Plan describes:

- the type of public places covered by the Plan and communities who regularly use them;
- how and when the University will provide the community with notice of 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 the notification arrangements;
- how future reviews of the Plan will be conducted; and
- contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this Plan.

This Plan applies to all staff, contractors and tenants of UNSW. The pesticides considered in the Plan include insecticides (for treating insects); herbicides (for treating weeds); fungicides (for treating fungus and mould) and rodenticides (for treating rodents).

2 Public places covered by this Plan

UNSW proposes to use pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places that it owns or controls across its campuses set out below:

- public lawns and gardens;
- sporting fields and ovals; and
- laneways, roads and pathways within the campuses.

This plan will also provide information on how notice will be provided to the community of pesticide use in the interiors of the following UNSW buildings:

- Campus Buildings

Campuses

UNSW has numerous campuses in Sydney and regional UNSW. The campuses that have outdoor public places where pesticide application notification requirements apply are:

Sydney area

- Kensington
- Randwick
- Paddington
- Manly Vale
- David Phillips Sports Field Complex

Regional Campuses

- Port Macquarie
  Fowlers Gap
- Wellington Field Station
- Hay Field Station
- Smiths Lake Field Station

Maps of the campuses can be accessed at the following webpage:

http://www.estate.unsw.edu.au/maps/maps.html

UNSW's estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide used in each of these public place categories is summarised in the following table.

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of use of public place	Type of pesticide use
Gardens and lawns (e.g. Library Lawn, Quad lawn)	• General public • Students • Staff • Contractors	• Medium • High • High • Medium	• spot herbicides or insecticides • broad scale selective or non-selective herbicides • broad scale insecticides • fungicides • spray termiticides • bait termiticides • spray ant control • rodenticides
Sporting fields and ovals	• General public • Students • Staff • Contractors • Sporting teams	• Medium • Medium • Medium • Medium • High	• spot herbicides or insecticides • broad scale selective or non-selective herbicides • plant growth regulators • broad scale insecticides • fungicides • spray ant control • bait termiticides • rodenticides
Laneways, roads and pathways	• General public • Students • Staff • Contractors	• High • High • High • Medium	• broad scale or spot herbicides or insecticides • fungicides • spray termiticides • bait termiticides • spray ant control • rodenticides
Campus Buildings	• General public • Students • Staff • Contractors	• Medium	• spot insecticides • spray termiticides • bait termiticides • spray ant control • rodenticides

Explanation of Level of Use

- High – Daily.
- Medium – Weekly.
- Low - Annual (or less frequently).

3 Notification arrangements

This section of the Plan describes how and when UNSW will provide notice of pesticide use in public places, including special measures for sensitive places that are adjacent to public places, arrangements for emergency pesticide applications and circumstances where notice will not be given.

These notification requirements are based on UNSW's assessment of the risks involved with the pesticides, the likelihood of exposure and the sensitivity of possible receptors.

How and when notice of pesticide use will be provided

Notification of pesticide use may be carried out in the following ways:

- through this Pesticide Use Notification Plan;
- signs erected at the entry to areas where pesticides are being applied;
- if the impact is large enough, a notice will also appear in the Staff News and staff intranet; and
- through the UNSW website

Additional information is available by request:

- An annual schedule of pesticide application.
- A Safety Data Sheet (often known as an SDS or MSDS) for particular pesticides.

The specific method of notification for the different public places are:

Gardens, lawns, sporting fields and ovals

Mobile signs will be placed at the main entries to the area immediately prior to the application. The signs will remain in place during the application and until the end of the period of avoidance specified by the pesticide manufacturer.

Laneways, roads and pathways within the campus

Signs will be displayed on the vehicle, spray cart or equipment as it is applying the pesticide. Mobile signs will also be placed at an approximate 100m spacing along the walkway, footpath or verge immediately prior to the application and remain in place until the end of the period of avoidance specified by the pesticide manufacturer.

Pesticide use without notification

There will be no notification for the use of small quantities of domestic grade pesticides on the UNSW public places listed above that involve:

- minor spot spraying from a hand or backpack carried sprayer;
- cut and paint or stem injection techniques; and
- insect, rodent and mollusc baiting in garden beds, car parks, waste collection points and external areas of buildings.

Emergency pest control

Emergency pesticide applications may be required occasionally to treat health hazards such as biting, stinging or venomous insects or rodents. The potential pests could include wasps, bees, rodents, spiders, fleas and mites. In these emergency cases the normal notification will not be followed. When it is possible, a single sign will be placed in the immediate area of application. If necessary, people in the area will be alerted to both the health hazard and the pesticide application, particularly when it is close to a sensitive place.

Additional notification for sensitive places

Extra notification is planned for the use of a pesticide on or within 20m of *sensitive places*. The Pesticides Regulation defines sensitive places to include schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, hospitals, community health centres or nursing homes. If you would like to be included as a sensitive place, please **contact us** (contact details are listed at the end of this Plan).

Special measures for sensitive places

We have considered the following sensitive places when preparing the notification Plan.

Childcare centre

- House of Pooh Corner Childcare Centre: Barker Street, Kingsford.

UNSW Medical Centre – Ground floor Quadrangle Building (E15)

Sensitive Place notification process

- In addition to the ordinary notification outlined above, pesticide applications in or within 20m of a sensitive place will be notified at least 5 working days prior to the application.
- The person managing the sensitive place, or their delegate, will be notified.
- When an emergency application is required in or within 20m of a sensitive place, notification will be carried out in person by knocking on the door of the sensitive place. Under these emergency circumstances the notification may be passed onto whoever is available at the sensitive place rather than the manager.

Pesticide contractors and lessees of public places

Where UNSW uses contractors to apply pesticides on its behalf, UNSW will ensure that notification is made in accordance with the notification requirements of this Plan.

Where persons or organisations hold an existing lease on UNSW land that remains a public place, UNSW will ensure that electronic notification is made in accordance with the notification details of this Plan.

4 What information will be provided

In accordance with clause 45 (pesticide use notice) of the Regulation, notice of pesticides use will include the following information:

- the full product name of the pesticide to be used;
- the active ingredient within the pesticide;
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated;
- the proposed date/s or date range of the pesticide use;
- the places where the pesticide is to be used;
- contact telephone number and email address of the UNSW Delegate who people can contact to discuss the notice; and
- any warnings regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA[1] permit.

The template for the Pesticide Use Notice is in the appendix.

As part of the University's commitment to working safely with chemicals, all personnel applying pesticides or preparing a Pesticide Use Notice have at least a AQF3 Urban Pesticide Safety level of competency.

5 How the community will be informed of this Plan

The UNSW will advise the public of this Plan and its contents by:

- Making a copy of the notification Plan available at the UNSW Mathews Building Level 3 Estate Management.
- Placing a copy of the notification Plan on the University website and the Estate Management SharePoint site.
- Placing a notice in local papers that serve the area associated with the campuses.
- Placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette.

6 Future reviews of the Plan

The Plan will be reviewed every 3 years or when circumstances require a review of the Plan. The review will consider the implementation and effectiveness of the Plan to identify potential improvements.

When there are major changes to the Plan, the public consultation process which established the original Plan will be repeated. When there are minor updates to the Plan, the public will be notified through an update to the Plan on the website.

7 Contact details

Anyone wishing to contact UNSW to discuss the notification Plan or to obtain details of pesticide applications in public places should contact:

UNSW Sydney

Estate Management
Level 3 Mathews building
NSW 2052 Australia

T: +61 (2) 9385 5111

E: estate@unsw.edu.au

W: www.estate.unsw.edu.au

8 Appendices

Template for the Pesticide Use Notice

Staff and contractors from Estate Management will use a sign for pesticide use notification, as described in 'How notice of pesticide use will be provided'. A sample template follows-

Product name of the pesticide	
Active constituent within the pesticide	
Purpose and pests are being treated	
Where the pesticide is to be used	
Dates of pesticide use	
Date of re-entry to this area	
Warnings for this pesticide (as specified on the label or the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority permit)	

Information about pesticide use can be found in the *UNSW Pesticides Use Notification Plan*, which is available on the website (www.edu.au).

Specific information on this pesticide application is available from:

Contact name	UNSW Estate Management
Telephone number	+61 (2) 9385 5111
Email address	estate@unsw.edu.au