



# **Pesticide Use Notification Plan – For**

## **Outdoor Areas**

### **Section 1 - Introduction**

This pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). The plan sets out how Macquarie University 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 plan describes:

- The type of public places covered by the plan and any community who use them
- How and when the University 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 the notification arrangements
- Contact details for anyone wishing to discuss this plan.

The pesticides considered in the plan include insecticides (for treating insect pests); herbicides (for the treatment of weeds); fungicides (for treating fungus and mould) and rodenticides (for treating pest rodents).

The pesticide use notification plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Pesticides Regulation 2017.

Macquarie University seeks to minimize reliance on pesticides and herbicides where possible on the lands under its control.

### **Section 2 – The Coverage of this Plan**

#### **2.1 Included Areas - General**

This plan applies to all students, staff, contractors and tenants on Macquarie University controlled properties, where pesticides are used in outdoor areas.

Macquarie University proposes to use or allow use of pesticides in the following categories of outdoor public places that it owns or controls across its campuses:

- Garden and lawns
- Sporting fields, courts and ovals
- Walkways, footpaths and road verges
- Carparks and grandstands
- Informal open space
- Bushland remnants.

## **2.2 Included Areas with Additional Arrangements**

A limited number of outdoor public areas comprise, or are contiguous with, biological research and teaching spaces which require special management arrangements in relation to the control of pests or weeds. Consultation arrangements involving the Department or Faculty-nominated contact persons for these areas remain in place, and are not superseded by the public notification objects of this plan. Areas with additional arrangements currently recognized are:

- Experimental glasshouses at 5 Wallys Walk
- Biological Sciences Garden
- Jim Rose Science Garden
- Bush Tucker Garden
- The invertebrate facilities at 14 Eastern Road

## **2.3 Excluded Area Subject to Controlled Access**

The university Fauna Park and adjoining research buildings are a distinct part of the campus grounds to which general public access is restricted. Sites enclosed within the Fauna Park precinct operate under distinct communication, authorisation and oversight arrangements, with regard to any pest and weed management required.

The University's estimate of the level of community use, regular user groups and types of pesticide used in each public place category is summarised in the following table:

Public places	Regular user groups	Level of public place	Types of pesticide
Gardens and central lawns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spot herbicides or insecticides</li> <li>• Broadscale insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Spray termiticides</li> <li>• Spray ant control</li> <li>• Bait termiticides,</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
Sporting fields, courts, ovals and grandstands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium</li> <li>• Medium</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spot herbicides or insecticides</li> <li>• Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides</li> <li>• Broadscale insecticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> <li>• Spray termiticides</li> <li>• Spray ant control</li> <li>• Bait termiticides,</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
Walkways, footpaths and road verges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spot herbicides or insecticides</li> <li>• Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> </ul>
Carparks, and toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> <li>• High</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spot herbicides or insecticides</li> <li>• Bait insecticides and rodenticides</li> <li>• Fungicides</li> </ul>
Informal open space – lawns, tree groves and watercourses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low</li> <li>• Medium</li> <li>• Medium</li> <li>• Medium</li> <li>• Medium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadscale selective or non-selective herbicides</li> <li>• Spot herbicides or insecticides</li> <li>• Rodenticides</li> </ul>
Bushland remnants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low</li> <li>• Low</li> <li>• Low</li> <li>• Medium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spot herbicides</li> <li>• Large vertebrate baiting</li> </ul>

#### Explanation of User Groups:

- Students – the University's students attending the campus for classes or study
- Staff – the University's academic and professional staff
- Contractors – trades and professionals carrying out their work on the campus
- Public – community members visiting the campus, attending graduations or other functions, and neighbours.

#### Explanation of Level of Use:

- High – daily
- Medium – weekly
- Low – once per semester, annually or less frequently.

## Section 3 – Sensitive Places

The Pesticide Regulation 2017 defines sensitive places to include schools, childcare centers, hospitals, community health centers and aged care facilities.

A number of sensitive places are located on or adjacent to Macquarie University locations:

- Banksia Cottage childcare
- Gumnut Cottage childcare
- Mia Mia childcare
- Macquarie University Special Education Centre (MUSEC)
- Holiday care centre at 11 University Ave.

Hospitals – Macquarie University Private Hospital and Clinic.

Research facilities - The Animal facility at 13 Research Park Drive.

## Section 4 – Notification Arrangements

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

These notifications arrangements are based on Macquarie University's assessment of:

- Level of usage of public places where pesticides may be applied
- Extent to which members of the public who are most likely to be sensitive to pesticides are likely to use these areas regularly
- Extent to which activities generally undertaken in these areas could lead to some direct contact with pesticides
- The type of pesticide used.

### No Notification

Noting the exceptions listed below, there is no planned notification for:

- Small applications of commonly used household pesticides, less than twenty litres of mixed spray, or five litres of concentrated product
- Non-spray herbicide application such as cut and paint or drill and paint.

*Exceptions to the above:* Areas described under section 2.2 and 2.3, which have a consultation and approval process relating to their special uses that takes precedence over this plan.

## **General Notification Requirements for Low and Medium Category Areas**

Regarding public areas with low to medium use:

At least two temporary signs will be placed at entrance points (e.g. gates leading to fenced areas) of the application area and kept in place for the duration of the application. Signs will be located to maximise prominence for passing people. 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:

- full product name of the pesticide to be used
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated
- proposed date/s of the pesticide use
- the locations where the pesticide is to be used
- contact telephone number and email address of contact person
- cautionary advice regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA permit.

## **General Notification Requirements for High Category Areas**

For public areas with high use:

48 hours prior to the commencement of an application at least two temporary signs will be placed at entrance points (e.g. gates leading to fenced areas) of the application area and kept in place for the duration of the application and for 48 hours post-application. Signs will be located to maximise prominence for passing people. The signs will be removed 48 hours post-application, 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:

- full product name of the pesticide to be used
- the purpose of the use, clearly setting out what pest or pests are being treated
- proposed date/s of the pesticide use
- the locations where the pesticide is to be used
- contact telephone number and email address of contact person
- cautionary advice regarding re-entry to or use of the place, if specified on the pesticide product label or the APVMA permit.

## **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 may include wasps, bees, rodents, spiders, fleas and mites. In such emergency cases, the above notification framework 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 affected area will be alerted to both the health hazard and the pesticide application, particularly when it is close to a sensitive place.

## **Additional Notification Requirements for Sensitive Places**

A number of sensitive places are located on or adjacent to Macquarie University locations, and they are listed in Section 3.

In addition to the ordinary notification outlined above, pesticide applications within twenty metres of a sensitive place will be notified at least five working days prior to the application. The person managing the sensitive place, or their delegate, will be notified by email.

When an emergency application is required within 20 metres 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.

## **Section 5—How the Community Will Be Informed**

Macquarie University will advise the public of this plan and its contents by:

- Making a copy of the notification plan available at the Property Office, 2 Link Rd Macquarie University
- Placing a copy of the notification plan on the University website
- Placing a notice in the NSW Government Gazette.

## **Section 6—Future Reviews of This Plan**

The notification plan will be reviewed every five 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.

## **Section 7—Contact Details**

Anyone wishing to contact Macquarie University to discuss the notification plan should contact:

John Macris  
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## Status and Details

<b>Status</b>	Current
<b>Effective Date</b>	01 September 2018
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