

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## **Avon Public Schools**

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Gary S. Mala
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

October 7, 2016

Dear Parents, Staff and Concerned Citizens:

I hope this communication finds you well as you enjoy the fall weather.

One of the greatest priorities that I hold seriously concerns the health and safety of those in our district. It is with this in mind that I am informing you of the substantial poison ivy infestation at many of our schools.

State law (Sec. 10-231b of the general statutes) provides for a ban of lawn care pesticides at public and private schools grades pre-K through 8. There is, however, a provision in this law that allows for the emergency use of pesticides to eliminate threats to human health. The determination of health threat may be made by local health directors, superintendent of public schools, the State Department of Public Health (DPH) or the DEEP.

It is my determination that in this instance the presence of poison ivy constitutes a threat to human health when it pertains to the students and staff in our district contracting the ill effects of poison ivy toxin.

Therefore I am requesting applications of Round Up Quik Pro at Roaring Brook, Pine Grove, and Thompson Brook Elementary Schools under DPW license with treatments being made by qualified BOE employees. The tentative treatment date for application is October 11, 2016 and will be completed when students are not in attendance at the schools.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Avon Public Schools' Director of Operations, Myles Altimus at 860-404-4789 or <a href="mailto:maltimus@avon.k12.ct.us">maltimus@avon.k12.ct.us</a>.

Very truly yours,

Gary S. Mala Superintendent of Schools Avon Public Schools gmala@avon.k12.ct.us