

Standard Operating Procedure for Chemical Use in Child Care Centers

1. Determine the need to use a chemical to solve a situation/pest problem (See S.O.P. *Choosing Pest Management Strategies in Child Care Centers*).
2. Choose the correct chemical and carefully read the product label (See S.O.P. *Reading Chemical Product Labels used in Child Care Centers*).
3. Prepare area for treatment.
 - Inform co-workers, parents, and facility management that a chemical application is planned; provide date and time of application and any post-treatment precautions, as needed.
 - Remove children, non-participating persons, pets, and inanimate objects from treatment area(s).
 - Clean area with soap and water, if needed. Let dry.
4. Put on the label-specified personal protective equipment.
5. Gather application equipment, measuring device(s), and chemical container in the chemical mixing area. This site should be pre-approved by facility management; it should be stationed away from child- or animal-occupied areas.
6. Mix the chemical exactly as specified by the **Directions for Use** section on the product label. Ensure adequate ventilation in the mixing area.
7. Clean measuring device(s) as per label directions; let dry. Place in chemical storage area. These devices should be clearly marked "For Pesticide Use Only".
8. Re-shelf the chemical container. Lock the storage area. Products should be stored only in their original, labeled container.
9. Apply the mixed chemical to the target area(s) as specified on the product label. Ensure adequate ventilation in treatment area(s).
10. Clean application equipment as per label directions; let dry. Store in locked area.
11. Clean personal protective equipment with soap and running water; let dry. Store in secure area away from chemical storage. If gloves are disposable, carefully cut the glove fingers off with scissors and discard in trash receptacle.
12. Let applied chemical remain on target area(s); keep people and pets out of area(s) the recommended time. For sanitizers and disinfectants, the contact time will be given on product label. For other pesticides, let product dry.
13. Check treatment area(s) before opening area(s) for other staff, children and pets.
14. Record the chemical application as per facility protocol.