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UM establishes pesticide policy

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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM establishes pesticide policy" (1970). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 5721. <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/5721>

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UM ESTABLISHES
PESTICIDE POLICY

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IMMEDIATELY

MISSOULA--

A pesticide policy regulating the use of potentially dangerous chemicals at the University of Montana has been adopted by the University administration.

George Mitchell, administrative vice-president on the Missoula campus, said the purpose of the pesticide policy "is to minimize hazards associated with the use of pesticides and to facilitate control over unwanted pests."

"The new policy," said Mitchell, "recognizes that proper care of grounds and maintenance of sanitary building premises are deterrents to insect infestations and fungus growths but acknowledges that the use of chemicals may be necessary to control such infestations."

One major feature of the policy is the prohibition of the use of chlorinated hydrocarbons on University vegetation. The pesticide policy also stipulates that pest control contracts not necessarily be let to the lowest bidder, but to contractors who are the most knowledgeable in their profession.

The policy also requires that applicators of pesticides provide records of application to the campus sanitarian, who in turn would make copies of such records available to the members of the University Pesticide Control Committee.

This six-member committee includes a plant pathologist, an entomologist, the campus sanitarian, and representatives of the student body, student facilities and the Physical Plant Department.

Administrative officials appoint members to the Pesticide Control Committee. The committee chairman calls a committee meeting at least once a year to establish and review existing pesticide policies.

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