

#### Fact Sheet | Lice

### Beware the super lice

Lice are becoming a severe problem, as they have become resistant to pesticides that have been used to treat them. If you have an area with a lice problem, please remember the following:

- Vacuum and clean the area with Eco Wash. Eco Wash may be used to clean the carpets and all surfaces.
- As part of the EnviroSafe IPM program, De-Licer Shampoo is available at no charge to your parents. This non-toxic, proprietary formula was 100% effective in a clinical trial and is very effective at solving even the most resistant lice problem.

Studies have shown

Dr. Marion Moses of the Pesticide Education Center shared a four-year French study pointing to a 90% increase in acute childhood leukemia in association with any one of the three pesticide lice shampoos, including pyrethroids, lindane, malathion.

- De-Licer is a nit removal tool, which is the main challenge to managing lice.
- Adult lice do not jump and do not fly. Close contact and the sharing of personal items spread them. If you are trying to resolve a lice problem, we suggest that personal items be stored in their own containers and are not shared.
- If the classroom has upholstered furniture (couch, chair, etc.) these items need to be removed from the room. The fabric on the furniture has the potential to spread lice.
- The use of pesticide bedding sprays is documented to be totally ineffective and dangerous. The use of Eco Wash and a vacuum will give you far safer and better results.

#### Frequently asked questions

What are lice?

Lice are parasitic insects that can infest the head and body. Lice have been found on humans throughout history, and anyone can get lice at any time of the year. All types of people, regardless of race, hair color or otherwise, are possible hosts. Even personal hygiene is no guarantee against getting lice.

How do I know if I
have lice?

Intense itching is often an indicator and occurs most commonly behind the ears or at the base of the neck. You may also find tiny, wingless insects in your hair that are about the size of a sesame seed or smaller. They vary in color from clear (when they hatch) to reddish or black. The eggs, or nits, are usually the most easily visible sign of infestation. These are tear-dropped and are "glued" to the hair. De-Licer digest this glue making nit removal much easier and effective.

#### Do lice jump or fly?

No, but they can crawl fast. Combing infested hair that is not wet with De-Licer can cause static electricity that will make lice appear to be flying or jumping.

## How can I get head lice?

Lice are spread by sharing items such as combs, brushes, hats, clothing or towels; hanging or storing items close together on hooks or in lockers; and coming into contact with lice or nits on a bed, couch, chair, car seat or direct person-to-person contact.

And while lice problems often start in schools and are viewed as a problem of childhood, anyone can get lice. The hairsprays and gels adults often use are not effective repellants. Parents, siblings, residents and guests should all be treated with De-Licer.

# Can I get other diseases from lice?

The biggest health risk is scratching, which can cause sores and infections. Another significant concern is the use of harmful pesticides to remove the lice or scabies. These toxic treatments have proven to be dangerous, especially to children, pregnant or nursing mothers, asthmatics and sick or elderly persons. De-Licer contains no pesticides.

#### Should I "pick nits"?

Removing all nits is recommended. Many schools have a "no nit" policy. After using De-Licer according to label directions, you'll find that any remaining nits come out more easily. Re-check daily, as nits grow out from the scalp.