



Prairie Rose School Division recognizes that exposure to perfumes and other scented products can trigger serious health reactions in individuals with asthma, allergies, migraines and/or chemical sensitivity. Fragrances are found in a wide range of products including both personal products (perfume, cologne, aftershave, deodorant, soap, shampoo, hairspray, body spray, make-up and powders) and general products (air fresheners, fabric softeners, laundry detergents, cleaners, carpet deodorizers and/or facial tissue).

In an effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for all staff, students and visitors, Prairie Rose School Division commits to:

- Strongly encourage all staff, students and visitors to avoid or reduce the use of fragrance products and replace them with unscented alternatives.
- Promote the reduction of unnecessary use of chemicals.
- Promote the use of environmentally friendly materials and products.
- Target harmful chemicals and implement controls to effectively prevent or minimize their release into the general air as a result of building, maintenance, custodial and teaching activities.
- Support the best possible air quality practicably attainable, by means of proper ventilation and maintenance of building mechanical ventilation systems.

BE

SCENT

Aware

Let's share the air

How to be scent aware:

- Be considerate of those who are sensitive to fragrances.
- If you do use scented products, use them sparingly. A general guideline is that the scent should be not be detectable more than one arm's length away from you and do not apply scented products in a public area.
- Avoid using products that give off chemical-based scents in your work area.
- Avoid using laundry or cleaning agents that are scented and air out dry cleaned clothing before wearing.

What to do if you are scent sensitive:

- Comfortably approach the scented individual and let him/her know how you react to fragrances.
- Inform your supervisor or instructor of your sensitivities, your symptoms and the types of exposures that improve or worsen your symptoms.
- Consult with your physician about your symptoms.
- Consult the resources listed in this guideline for further information or assistance.

If you are an employee who is approached about the use of your scent product:

- a) Be aware that exposure to scented products can cause symptoms in certain individuals.
- b) Even if surprised and/or take aback when approached, listen to co-workers in a non-defensive way.
- c) Learn as much as possible about the types of scented products that cause your co-workers to experience symptoms.
- d) Be understanding of the concern and willing to reach a resolution in a co-operative manner.

Be Air Aware

What to do if you are approached about your scent:

- If someone informs you that the fragrance products that you use or wear are a problem, understand that it is not about you as a person or about your choice of fragrance but it is about the chemicals in the fragrance product.
- Discuss the issue openly. Ask questions about the health impact on the person, the types of symptoms experienced, the factors which make the person's symptoms better/worse.
- Empathize with the individual, work with cooperation and understanding towards a satisfactory resolution.

