Education/Outreach

1. Develop and utilize educational methods to provide education and hands-on training for custodial, maintenance, kitchen and grounds staff, school nurses, facility directors, administrators, teachers and IPM coordinators in rural, suburban and urban settings.
2. Improve superintendents, principals and teacher pre-service training courses and develop curricula for training Extension, state legislators and other change agents.
3. Provide training for IPM coordinators to improve effectiveness in their role.
4. Create multi-state coordinated train the trainer programs on School IPM, e.g., resources for peer-to-peer training.
5. Provide IPM and health information to teachers, support staff, department of education, parents and administrators, e.g., common display content that allows each state to use their own logos.
6. Educate policy makers about the needs and benefits of IPM in terms of dollars, health, environmental and academic performance, e.g., use case studies describing how school IPM programs can be initiated and sustained.
7. Partner with pest management professionals and organizations to create and implement effective, economical IPM service relationships, e.g., provide pest control service providers with sample vendor packet with sample contact/sample service tickets.
9. Promote inclusion of IPM lessons into teacher education programs at universities.
10. Create pesticide education program at national level to target schools.
11. Outreach to schools and the public about turf management options that are sustainable, organic, and/or use IPM management practices.
12. Coordinate and piggyback education efforts with parallel efforts, e.g., ‘Tools for School’s type programs.
13. Educate school IPM coordinators/facilities director on how to interpret service tickets/invoices from pest control providers, e.g., develop a model IPM service resource for use in promoting easily understood and comprehensive service.
14. Create best management practice for schools to use with vendors of pest management services, design and construction services, custodial services, food and drink product service providers, etc.
15. Promote education on how to read a pesticide label to school IPM audiences, e.g., teachers, custodial, etc.
16. Create basic awareness and understanding of the concept of IPM (and the acronym) among mass media which can be used to educate the general public about IPM.
17. Market IPM in conjunction with other environmental improvements.
18. Allow participants input early in the process when implementing demonstrations or coalitions.
19. Revisit working group marketing and outreach strategies.
20. Create IPM coordinator video testimonials.
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22. Create more interactive/downloadable based training materials, e.g., develop a YouTube subcommittee to organize production with other workgroups to develop content topics and scripts.
23. Promote IPM STAR evaluator training.
24. Develop web-based distance education through extension.
25. Develop bed bug information for teachers, parents, nurses in ‘lay’ language.
26. Create fact sheet marketing IPM.
27. Develop learning labs which travel from school to school covering specific pest topics.
28. Develop organizational chart of IPM entities.
29. Develop speaker resources (bureau) by region, organized by driving distance.
30. Participate in trade shows/health expos, etc.

Management

1. Coordination with state agencies (e.g., posters for schools, packets for teachers).
2. Develop IPM decision-making tools, e.g., a decision tree with pest-specific steps and/or a pest solution center to help schools prioritize needs within budgetary constraints, facility/work order management systems such as School Dude, MUNIS, i-PEST, IPM Calculator.
3. Identify and piggyback with ongoing environmental health efforts and coordinate with partners in promoting IPM to help schools (including child care facilities) to meet health, high performance and safety, economic, and energy efficiency goals, e.g., Environmental Management System, engage environmental health and safety professionals by creating awareness of the need and effective methodology for success, connect school IPM projects with broader pollution prevention initiatives at school district, state and national level.
4. Track adoption of IPM practices in schools and disseminate economic, environmental and/or health impacts of IPM, e.g., schools perform annual self-assessments, case studies, research data, utilize state report cards to help determine training needs and goals.
5. Promote inclusion of IPM in certification standards, e.g., USGBC, Green Seal.
6. Recognize schools, organizations and pest management providers for practicing verifiable, high-level IPM and provide incentives, e.g., IPM STAR, recognition, positive publicity, reduced liability and insurance, using clear and comprehensive standards.
7. Establish appropriately trained IPM coordinators in school systems to oversee day-to-day implementation of IPM policies and programs.
8. Provide funding for school assessments including active participation by local actors (e.g. Extension, public health agencies) to prioritize needed improvements in individual school systems (e.g., IPM STAR).
9. Increase funding for management, coordination, education, research and implementation, e.g., outreach to non-traditional funders for IPM STAR, establish a travel fund to support interstate travel for school IPM coordinator and applicators.
10. Develop national school IPM coalition of stakeholder organizations to coordinate implementation of proven approaches nationwide.
11. Create job-specific IPM Guidelines for roles within schools (e.g. athletic field managers, custodians, maintenance staff, principals, etc).
12. Identify, educate and activate appropriate school-related organizations to embed IPM into the organizational culture, including ongoing continuing education opportunities for members.
13. Establish a go-to-person for assistance in each state.
14. Establish a relationship with IPM Voice (allow for advocacy). Send priority list to IPM voice so they can advocate.
15. Establish demonstration schools in each state, including states that have not had pilots in the past and underserved school districts.
16. Increase recognition/awareness of IPM.
17. Develop realistic goals for high level IPM in schools by 2015.
18. Expand expertise into public health, wildlife, school officials and medical professionals.
19. Strengthen support for struggling states.

Regulatory

1. Identify and promote interagency cooperation among regulatory, environmental, health, insurance, education, State and Federal, Cooperative Extension and other agencies.
2. Establish IPM policies in school systems to institutionalize the commitment to IPM, e.g., establish and share Parent /Teacher Association (PTA) school IPM models/restrictions; incorporate IPM into school wellness legislation; state school board adoption of IPM policy.
3. Implement and enforce existing IPM laws and policies (regarding verifiable standards) at the highest level of economic and regulatory accountability.
4. Create and mandate minimum standards for school IPM at federal level, e.g., established through high level IPM training/licensing for pest management professionals.
5. Develop organizations and strategies for influencing change that will result in state Department of Education, Health and Safety regulations and policies that call for IPM, e.g., seek state legislator champion to present successful legislation at NCSL annual conference.
6. Establish or use existing diverse local stakeholder committees to advocate for policies and procedures that implement proven IPM strategies and practices, e.g., develop and disseminate a protocol for grassroots implementation to increase effectiveness of local advocates, partner with National Pest Management Association, Beyond.
7. Advocate for change at federal level, e.g., SEPA: School Environmental Protection Act, NCLB: No Child Left Behind, HHPS Act.
8. Identify opportunities for improving regulations and regulatory and legislative processes to improve IPM adoption, e.g., US Senate and House committees that work on school legislation at the federal level.
9. Quantify costs to regulatory agencies for enforcement of school IPM regulations and advocate for funds, e.g., increase funding for the enforcement of existing regulations including compliance by commercial pest management professionals and other businesses providing services to schools, and
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for evaluating pesticides-use records submitted to state-lead agencies in states with mandates
reporting for compliance.
10. Review pesticide labels for risks to children in school/childcare setting.
11. Establish minimum students’ rights for environmental health standards in schools and include
students and teachers in OSHA-like protections.
12. Develop a model compliance agreement for use by state lead agencies with violators of states
pesticides and/or school IPM regulations, i.e., regulations with “teeth”.
13. Fund consultant services for IPM compliance assistance to provide schools with access to experts
who can identify opportunities for improvements.
14. Work to incorporate IPM strategies into building codes.
15. Complete overhaul of signal words on label (ability to easily ID low impact or reduced risk pesticides
by EPA). Encourage EPA to create a database of low impact pesticides that uses searchable terms
that allow one to easily identify low impact or reduced risk pesticides, based on MSDS and label
information which define low impact.
16. Evaluate regulatory approaches to use of EPA exempt (25b) products and determine if these
products are accessible for use by schools under existing state and federal regulations.
17. Advocate for a requirement for continuing education of school nurses on IPM.

Research

1. Identify effective least-risk products and tools to manage pests and measure IPM continual
improvement.
2. Compile data/information on effects of pesticides and pests on children’s health, (asthma, allergies,
absenteeism, grades, ADHA,), academic performance and safety factors, e.g., IPM PRIME for
schools.
3. Research the impact pest management practices have on indoor and outdoor school environmental
health, e.g., school well water, school gardens and use of adjacent properties.
4. Evaluate building design, construction, renovation, and maintenance criteria, e.g., green buildings,
LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), LEED for Schools EB (Existing Buildings) and
CHPS.
5. Research effectiveness of pesticides/pest treatments, e.g., turf management options (low impact
product identification), organic 25b, reduced-risk options, home remedies, stinging insect IPM
management, microbial drain cleaners, bed bug IPM and head lice treatment options.
6. Compile, update, and evaluate state requirements and resources for school IPM.
7. Potential cross-over benefits of school IPM, e.g., impact school IPM has on improving the greater
community.
8. Develop analysis tools and conduct in-depth inspections of schools to determine what pest
management practices are really being used.
9. Research and evaluate outreach methods to determine most effective methods of school/community audiences, e.g., identification of entry points for implementation of IPM and study of sociological factors affecting adoption of IPM. Conduct a comparative analysis of the effectiveness of different types of change agents such as Extension and advocacy group parents have on IPM adoption.


11. Research the cost of IPM, including: implementation and education versus conventional pest management, conduct a cost analysis for misapplication of pesticides (indoor and outdoor), calculate the cost savings of exclusion practices, e.g., ancillary benefits of IPM and conduct a comparative analysis of the cost of pest control in-house versus contracted out (all costs).

12. Research the geographic distribution of pest species and range of expansion.

13. Research the most effective methods for third-party assessment of the quality of services provided to schools by pest management professionals.

14. Raise awareness of and attitudes towards IPM among school community members through the assessment of their satisfaction with IPM, e.g., success stories of IPM adoption.

15. Research corporate avenues for financial support of high level IPM in schools, e.g., cleaning and supply companies.

16. Research the use of mosquito repellent at home with student/employee versus on school property.