

School & Home Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Newsletter – February 2017



COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE
& LIFE SCIENCES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

View this newsletter as a [PDF](#).
Editor: Shujuan (Lucy) Li, lisj@cals.arizona.edu

Stop School Pests: Professional Development Training for Schools

Pests are not acceptable in school environments! Cockroaches, mice and dust mites cause asthma and trigger asthma attacks and allergy symptoms, hurting both staff and student attendance and performance. The resurgence of bed bugs as common pests is a growing problem for many schools, along with head lice, stinging ants and other pests that distract from meeting learning objectives.

Learn how to identify and effectively manage pests while minimizing pesticide and pest management hazards. Professionals working in schools will learn essential information to keep pests from interfering with healthy school and home environments!

[Stop School Pests](#) is a free, professional development-training package for Pre-K-12 school staff. It includes individual modules for school administrators, facility managers, landscape and grounds staff, custodians, maintenance staff, school nurses, food service staff and teachers in public schools. The IPM Basics introductory training is suitable for all school community members including pest management professionals and parents.



List of Stop School Pests Training Courses

Stop School Pests - **A BASIC INTRODUCTION FOR EVERYONE:**

Providing safe and healthy school environments is a high-priority for communities everywhere. Schools are sensitive environments, in which effective pest management is an essential and critically important responsibility. Students spend a major part of their day at school and the environmental standards set, have profound impacts on their health and academic success. As any high-traffic facility, schools face pest and pest management challenges that impact their proper functioning. Integrated Pest Management or IPM is a strategy that ensures safe, cost-effective and sustainable pest management, reducing risks associated with pests and their management.

Everyone in a school community plays a role in IPM because common human habits may create pest-conducive conditions. This IPM introductory module explains important IPM concepts and helps to increase awareness of how our everyday choices affect pest populations around us. This training will help learners to gain a basic understanding of IPM principles. The training modules are designed to help busy professionals keep schools and their homes pest free.

Stop School Pests – for MAINTENANCE STAFF:

School maintenance pros play a key role in preventing problems with bed bugs, cockroaches and other pests that threaten student health and performance! Maintenance staff can learn how to keep pests out of schools by “thinking pests” as they go about their regular duties ensuring that the school building is functioning at peak performance.

Stop School Pests – for FOOD SERVICE PROFESSIONALS:

Food Service professionals play a key role in preventing problems with flies, ants, cockroaches and other pests that threaten student health and performance! Food service staff can learn how to keep common pests out of kitchens and pantries by “thinking pests” as they go about their regular duties. Clean and well-maintained food service areas are critical for the health and well-being of everyone in the school.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES ALINE WITH ServSafe® Food Handler STANDARDS

Stop School Pests – for CUSTODIANS:

Custodians and cleaning staff play a key role in preventing problems with cockroaches and other pests that threaten student health and performance! Did you know cockroaches, mice and dust mites can cause asthma and trigger asthma attacks? Custodians can learn how to correct conducive conditions for pests in schools by “thinking pests” as they go about their regular duties.

Stop School Pests – for FACILITY MANAGERS:

Facility Managers play a key role in preventing problems with bed bugs, cockroaches and other pests that threaten student health and performance! Facility Managers can learn how to avoid pest infestations and reduce risks associated with pests and pest management practices, ensuring that the school environment is safe and secure. This training helps busy Facility Managers keep schools pest free with a minimum of pesticides reducing liability concerns for the school.

Stop School Pests – for LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS MANAGEMENT:

Landscape and Grounds Management staff play a key role in preventing problems with mice and venomous pests such as fire ants that threaten student health and performance! Landscape and grounds managers can learn how to prevent pests from inhabiting outdoor spaces and migrating into the school by “thinking pests” as they go about their regular duties ensuring that the school’s landscapes and turf are healthy, and pesticides are used and stored appropriately. This training helps busy Landscape and Grounds staff keep schools pest free and assure staff and student safety.

Stop School Pests – for TEACHERS:

Teachers play a key role in preventing problems with bed bugs, cockroaches and other pests that threaten student health and performance! Did you know there are a number of communicable pests found in classrooms, not just head lice? Teachers learn how to keep

communicable pests out of schools by working with students to prevent pests from coming into the school in the first place.

Stop School Pests – for SCHOOL NURSES:

School nurses are on the front lines of preventing problems with communicable pests such as head lice and bed bugs that threaten student health and performance! Did you know cockroaches, mice and dust mites can cause asthma and trigger asthma attacks? School nurses will learn how to identify symptoms resulting from pest and pesticide exposure, as well as pest related injuries or sensitivities.

Stop School Pests – for ADMINISTRATORS:

Administrators play a key role in preventing problems with pests that threaten student health and performance. Administrators will learn how to create a successful plan that keeps pests out, ensuring that the school environment is safe and secure in order to maximize academic achievement.

In-Person Training Support May be Possible

To enquire if an in-person training event is an option, please email afreund@ipminstitute.org or call Alina Freund at the IPM Institute of North America at 608-232-1410 x 1007. Some parts of the US have subject matter experts who can provide the training in-person at your school.

Training sessions include an optional quiz at the end to earn a certificate of completion or certificate of attendance.

All trainings can be submitted for pesticide applicator and/or registered sanitarian Continuing Education Credits when applicable and upon request.

Online Training

Online versions of the training are available for self-guided training sessions and can be taken at any time. All Stop School Pests **online trainings** are available at <http://bit.ly/2kmnu2i>.



EPA and School Stakeholder Roundtable Meeting

Authored by Janet Hurley, Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension.

On May 25, 2016, EPA convened 29 representatives of 17 national school, health and pest management associations and federal government agencies in Washington, DC to discuss ideas for implementing a set of principles promoting the adoption of IPM practices in the nation's schools. A [meeting summary](#) documents the event, captures key discussion and presentation points, and provides links to resources referenced. A blog by EPA Assistant Administrator Jim Jones, [Endorsing a Path to Healthier Schools](#), provides context for the event and highlights its importance to the school community.

The 2016 School IPM Roundtable brought together disparate groups to pursue a voluntary enterprise that addresses pest problems proactively and reduces unnecessary exposure to pesticides. These organizations provided their endorsement of a Principles of Agreement on school IPM. They also committed to disseminate the endorsement, along with information on resources available to support school IPM implementation, to their members and associates. The event included an exchange of ideas on how the participants could track implementation of school IPM as a result of the endorsement.

Information on the 2016 School IPM Roundtable is available online:

1. Overview - <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/roundtable-school-integrated-pest-management>
2. Principles document - https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/roundtable_principles_updated_partner_logos_9.16.16.pdf
3. Meeting summary - <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/school-ipm-roundtable-meeting-summary>

EPA has created a landing page “Managing Pests in Schools” on this page you can find more information about the Roundtable meeting but more importantly here is a couple of documents you can use.

School IPM Program Bid and Contract Guidance document was developed to help offer guidance to IPM coordinators and school administrators on how to bid for IPM services and overcome low bid: <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/school-ipm-program-bid-and-contract-guidance>.

IPM in Schools - Saving Dollars and Making Sense is a one-page document that can be used by IPM coordinators and practitioners to help “sell” IPM: <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/ipm-schools-saving-dollars-and-making-sense>.

Tick Safety in Schools is an Integrated Pest Management approach for Protecting Children from Tick-Borne Diseases: <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/tick-safety-schools>.

There is also the IPM SIPM Policy Model document: <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/ipm-schools-model-pesticide-safety-and-ipm-guidance-policy-school-districts>.

Health Benefits of Integrated Pest Management in Schools

The following documents describe the health case for School IPM. They are designed to be easily accessible to both the general public and school administrators. They describe what IPM is, and then summarize currently available research pointing to how pest control via IPM makes for a healthier school environment. The fact sheet is a distillation of the information in the brochure.

You will need Adobe Reader to view some of the files on this page. See [EPA’s About PDF Page](#).

- Making Pests a Thing of the Past - Integrated Pest Management for Healthier Schools and Students: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-04/documents/making->

[pests-a-thing-of-the-past.pdf](#).

- Preventing Pests for Healthier Schools – The Health Case for Integrated Pest Management: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-04/documents/preventing-pests-for-healthier-schools.pdf>.

For 1,050 documents on school IPM go to <http://ischoolpestmanager.org/index.html>.

iSchool PEST MANAGER

Webinars and Events

Please join in for the [2017 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series](#). This webinar series provides information about good and bad insects. Webinars are free and open to everyone. Webinars will be on the **first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern time**.

Upcoming webinars include:

1. Protect Your Veggie Harvest From Hungry Insects! - March 3, 2017
2. Mosquitoes and Insect Borne Diseases - April 7, 2017
3. Ticks - May 5, 2017

For more information about upcoming and past School IPM webinars:

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/74016/2017-all-bugs-good-and-bad-webinar-series>.

The **EPA Center of Expertise for School IPM** is now hosting its [2016 - 2017 webinar series](#) featuring experts from across the country relaying educational and practical strategies for establishing and improving integrated pest management programs in schools.

Upcoming webinars include:

4. More Than Just a Firm Handshake: Bid and Contract Guidance for Securing IPM-Based Services for Schools - February 21, 2017
5. Feed the Kids, Not the Pests: Effective IPM for Cafeterias and Kitchen - March 14, 2017
6. Contending with Invasive Plants on School Grounds - April 17, 2017

For more information about upcoming and past School IPM webinars:

<https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/webinars-about-integrated-pest-management-schools>

February 21, Tuesday, 2:00-3:30 pm. Eastern / 12:00-1:30 pm. Arizona. EPA webinar:
[More Than Just a Firm Handshake – Bid and Contract Guidance for Securing IPM Based Services in Schools](#)

An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program is a critical component to ensuring a healthier

learning environment in schools. Now that you've made IPM in your school district a priority, how do you guarantee that your in-house or contracted pest management service providers are following IPM-based practices?

This [webinar](#) will prepare you to:

- Develop effective school IPM service contracts and review a model contract currently used in school districts.
- Efficiently manage the school IPM public bid process.
- Integrate essential IPM elements into bid specifications.
- Fully understand the perspective of purchasing agents involved in the school IPM bid contract process.
- Utilize EPA's [School IPM Program Bid and Contract Guidance](#) to assist with developing your school IPM service expectations.

Join EPA's Center of Expertise for School IPM, IPM specialists, and pest management professionals as we examine efficient ways for your school district to provide IPM-based pest control.

Space is limited to the first 1,000 to attend. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information on how to join the webinar.

For more information about the EPA Schools program, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/schools/>

For more information about Community IPM, visit:
<http://www.extension.org/pages/23359/urban-integrated-pest-management-community-page>



For more information about School IPM in Arizona, visit:
<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html>

Shujuan (Lucy) Li, Assistant in Extension - Public Health IPM. Email: lij@cals.arizona.edu

Dawn H. Gouge, Public Health IPM Expert. Email: dhgouge@cals.arizona.edu

Shaku Nair, Assistant in Extension - Community IPM. Email: nairs@email.arizona.edu

Al Fournier, IPM Assessment. Email: fournier@cals.arizona.edu

Ursula Schuch, Environmental Horticulture. Email: ukschuch@ag.arizona.edu

Kai Umeda, Extension Agent, Turf. Email: kumeda@cals.arizona.edu; <http://turf.arizona.edu>

Dave Kopec, Turf Specialist. Email: dkopec@ag.arizona.edu

Peter Warren, Extension Agent, Urban Horticulture. Email: plwarren@cals.arizona.edu

Michael Wierda, Assistant in Extension - Pesticide Safety Education. Email: mwierda@email.arizona.edu

To view all our previous newsletters, visit:

<https://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/public-health-IPM.html#newsletter>

<https://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html#newsletter>

Acknowledgements

This material is based upon work that is supported in part by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA NIFA). Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Additional support is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the University of Arizona – Arizona Pest Management Center (APMC).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture