

Community IPM Leadership Team
Conference Call
July 18, 2011

On the call: Bryan Stevens, Kai Umeda, Al Fournier, Ursula Schuch, Dawn Gouge, Peter Ellsworth

Topics:

- Timeline for School IPM Inside and Out
- Key School Contacts
- Indoor Components
- IPM Training Sessions for Municipalities

Timeline for School IPM Inside and Out

How long do we want to pursue the project? How often do we want to collect data?

Dawn: in the past we have done quarterly collection of data (or even more frequently). It may be necessary to be onsite and visit with participants as often as once per month. How frequent someone needs to be onsite will be in part determined by whatever the needs, based on seasonal changes and timing needed for effective plant and pest management. Ursula suggests as a rule of thumb, at least every other month (ideally monthly), and on an as-needed basis in addition to that.

What the schools needs are; what we can provide. Then determine if we should visit monthly or bimonthly.

When should we do the final assessment? Possibly 2 to 3 years. 3-4 years to see good results outdoors. With reduced frequency of interactions with the school as time goes on. Successful sites then become showcases where we will hold trainings for other school personnel from different districts. We will also need to evaluate progress at each school site for inclusion in the final report for the EIPM grant, which will be about 1.5 years into the project, assuming we start this summer or fall.

What should be our target date for initiating the program with schools? It will be hard to get anyone's attention in the first few weeks of school. It might be good to target late August as a potential date to get started on site at the schools. Most school districts have an in-service training some time in September.

Key School Contacts

The idea was that those who had previous contacts with specific schools, would make first contact. Then mention Bryan and introduce him in person during the first site visit. The group set a goal to make initial contact to all 4 schools (2 in PHX area and 2 in Tucson area) by 7/29. Choose one Junior High or High School in each city and one elementary school, to ensure that

athletic fields are included but also younger students who may somehow become involved in the program(?).

Ursula will be in Phoenix on July 26, and would like to meet with Bryan that day at MARCO. One goal of that meeting would be to revise the outdoor “report card” instrument. Dawn will also attend.

Tucson Area:

Tucson Unified School District. Very large school district. May go with one or two schools at this district. Lauren was the IPM contact previously at TUSD. Dawn will send her contact information.

Phoenix Area: Tempe Union High School – Kai has a contact, Bob Anderson who handles facilities.

Phoenix Union – Dawn previously worked with this district. Tony Scarfo is the IPM Coordinator there.

Consider Kyrene School District (elementary schools only). Roy Morris is the contact person.

Draft Poster for participating schools

Bryan sent out draft poster for the team to review prior to the meeting. This would be used in our initial meeting with the school. Dawn: different messages will resonate with different audiences in the school. End point impacts need to be relevant to the target audience. The impacts should be revised to highlight what is most important to the school district personnel. Maybe through initial contacts with school personnel, we can get a better feel for what impacts we should focus on. Ursula: Add a small section “How will this help you?” Add specifics that are important to the specific groups. Peter: What is also needed is a tailored version of the poster for each target audience (nurses, landscape and grounds, kitchen, teachers/principals, parents, students), that captures the elements that are most important to them. They might put something like this in enrollment packages, to help recruit students (as an information sheet or flyer). They will put it on their website as well. Something for the nurse’s office, the staff lounge, and other different groups. Bryan will work on this more and send out revised draft for the group to review.

Indoor Components

We have not yet talked much about the indoor aspect of the program. Both Tempe Union and Phoenix Union are Star certified school districts, which means they have recognition from the IPM Institute of North America. The evaluation tool for this program is currently being revised to include the outdoor environment. Dawn will pass the expertise of this group along in this process for this national instrument. Both school districts have an ongoing IPM program. For upcoming re-certification, Dawn will do an inspection and will identify any issues that need to be addressed relative to the Star certification program guidelines. This includes many factors. Bryan suggested we come up with a scoring system for evaluating the outdoors. We will put this on the agenda for the meeting with Dawn and Ursula for next week. Dawn: would like to include scoring relative to asthma triggers, e.g., mold, allergenic plants.

Cooperative Extension Signature Team Initiative proposal

We have participation from Peter Warren, Stacey Bealmear, Rick Gibson and Jeff S on the proposal. We should put no more than half of the budget into Bryan's salary. We will also need funding for travel. We might also consider some funding for ECAT if publications are involved. Bryan, by July 25, he will send us a draft. Dawn also put together a proposal draft. If she has enough county participation, she will pursue. Bryan thinks it is important to keep individuals in the other counties aware of what the leadership team is doing and how the project is progressing.

IPM Training Sessions for Municipalities

This is not a high priority or urgent topic, and we need Paul's input. Let's discuss at next face to face meeting in September. We were talking about implementing this for next Spring.

Dawn Updates:

- EPA School IPM grant RFA is out. Dawn is not doing one for AZ. She is part of a team that is submitting one through the IPM Institute of North America. This will support collaborative projects around the country, but does not bring any funding to AZ.
- The National and State parks have IPM plans written for each park and they are updated regularly. The Grand Canyon National Park IPM plan is 6 years old. It is quite a lot of work, much of it on site at the park. Dawn was contacted last week and asked if she would like to be involved in the revision of the plan. There is \$30,000 in funding available for this. But much of the budget would be for travel. She is asking if this team wants to commit to this project. The IPM plan involves noxious and invasive weeds. A decision needs to be made before September 1. There is a 12-step guide for developing a plan, which the National Parks Service contact will send to Dawn. She will forward to the group.

Availability Notes / Scheduling

Kai will be unavailable from today through August 15.

Ursula in PHX on Aug 10 if Bryan wants to meet.

Dawn is not available for a face to face meeting before the end of August.

Bryan should send out a Doodle to get our next several conference calls and meetings set up. (1) eliminate Tuesdays and Thursdays. Try to make the September meeting a face-to-face meeting.

Next conference call is Mon, August 22 at 11 am.

To do list:

Bryan – Brochure/poster for general and specialty uses, Grant draft emailed out by 25th, Send out doodle for next 6 months, every third meeting being in-person meeting.

Kai, Dawn, Ursula – By 5 pm on 7/29 have made contact and identified pilot schools. Well, at least made contact.