Hello School IPM folks and interested others,

Quick monthly update on school IPM and environmental health related news:

**City and state governments nationwide are tuning in to children’s environmental health awareness.**

- The city of San Francisco has signed into law a bill which will ban bisphenol-A (BPA) compounds from children’s toys and feeding products. Bisphenol-A is a known endocrine disruptor at certain levels, and is commonly used in the United States in plastics and epoxy resins, among others.

- North Carolina’s House and Senate have passed a bill that is awaiting governor signature; the “School Children’s Health Act” (H1502) will reduce school children’s exposure to pesticides, mercury, diesel and other health risks through IPM and other measures.

- **Arizona’s new law, SB 1350**, will expand the current pesticide notification requirements in place for public schools to childcare facilities. This bill takes effect in January 2007, and will be discussed at the Dec. 7th ACE Coalition meeting.

**Honey bees are swarming** with the last dregs of summer heat. No need for staff or students to panic… Information on how to behave around Africanized honey bees is available in the April 2005 Pest Press and memos. You can download these from the UA Urban IPM website at: [http://ag.arizona.edu/urbanipm/schoolipm/newsletters/index.html](http://ag.arizona.edu/urbanipm/schoolipm/newsletters/index.html).

**The next Arizona Children’s Environmental Health Coalition meeting with be December 7th, 9 AM-noon.** This meeting is appropriate for school facilities and administration staff, pest management professionals, and advocates of children’s environmental health. If you have not already, please RSVP your spot by contacting Dr. Dawn Gouge (dhgouge@ag.arizona.edu) or Jennifer Snyder (jsnyder@ag.arizona.edu).

**West Nile Virus is peaking late in Arizona’s 2006 season.** More than half the 48 human cases so far have been in Maricopa County. Arizona Department of Health Services data as of Sept. 28th indicates 26 males and 22 females between 9 and 87 years old (median age 54) have contracted some form of WNV this year.

- Uncomplicated Fever: 14
- Meningitis: 5
- Encephalitis: 10
- Neuroinvasive cases (meningitis plus encephalitis) = 15 (31%)
- Other (including Acute Flaccid Paralysis): 1
- Unknown: 18
Thanks all!

~Dawn & Jennifer