



NEWS ROUNDUP

IPM in Schools - April 4, 2017 - National Healthy Schools Day

Welcome to a special **National Healthy Schools Day** edition of the Stop School Pests News Roundup! This month's newsletter focuses on tools that schools can use to improve environmental health for students and staff. Created in 2002, **National Healthy Schools Day** is a national celebration of school environmental health successes that seeks to create awareness and educate others about the ongoing health challenges that our nation's schools and children face. The campaign is coordinated by the Healthy Schools Network with many partnering environmental health organizations and agencies.

U.S. schools and the students who attend them face serious problems. The American Society of Civil Engineers recently gave national school infrastructure an overall grade of D+, citing a lack of public funding and major under-investment in school facilities, with 24% of facilities surveyed found to be in fair to poor condition. As a result, millions of children and school staff are at risk daily from [poor indoor air quality, improper storage and use of hazardous materials, lead-contaminated drinking water](#), and [pest infestations and irresponsible pest management practices](#).

National Healthy Schools Day seeks to draw attention to these ongoing challenges through activities and announcements highlighting what schools, parents and stakeholders can do to improve environmental health for children. Please read on for some great tools that can be used by school districts and anyone interested in making a difference, and visit [Healthy Schools Network's page for the campaign](#) to follow what's happening.

This newsletter is courtesy of the [North Central Region School IPM Working Group](#) and the non-profit [IPM Institute of North America](#), working to harness marketplace power to improve health, environment and economics.

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IPM Institute of North America

On National Healthy Schools Day, Celebrate & Promote Healthy & Green Indoor School Environments for Kids & Staff

Today's schools face major environmental health challenges, but practical, targeted interventions such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) can help schools make positive, lasting changes to environmental quality and student health.

[Learn more here](#)



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Environmental Protection Agency

EPA IAQ Tools for Schools Action Kit Offers Easy Methods for Achieving Cleaner Indoor Air

Poor indoor air quality (IAQ) affects students in the form of increased asthma, decreased attendance and decreased ability to concentrate. The EPA has created a set of tools to help districts with IAQ, including best practices, industry guidelines, sample policies, and a sample IAQ management plan.

[Read more about EPA IAQ Tools for Schools here.](#)



IPM STAR

IPM STAR Certification Provides a Road Map to Healthier Schools

Schools often want to improve their pest management programs but don't know where to start. IPM STAR is a certification program that recognizes schools and childcare facilities for low-risk pest-management practices. It's designed to provide a road map and a helping hand to transition to safer pest management practices.

[Read about the IPM STAR program here](#)

Upcoming Events

Here are some upcoming events related to integrated pest management, healthy schools and environmental health.

April 4, 2017 Midwest Grows Green Land & Lawn Forum Webinar: Choosing Products Webinar

April 11, 2017 Contending with Invasive Plants on School Grounds EPA Webinar

May 9, 2017 Managing Bed Bugs in Schools, Child Care Centers and Boarding Schools EPA Webinar

March 19-22, 2018 9th International IPM Symposium Baltimore, MD

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