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School IPM 2020

Reducing Pest Problems and Pesticide Hazards in Our Nation's Schools

School IPM 2020 Newsletter: January 2015

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Join the

[Schoolbugs listserv](#)

to ask questions, learn from others and share successes and challenges.

*View this newsletter as a [PDF](#)

Greetings from School IPM 2020!

Every day, 49 million children attend school in the United States, served by nearly seven million teachers and staff. But they're not alone. Schools are also frequented by a number of pests including cockroaches, mice, dust mites and more. Asthma is epidemic among children, impacting nearly 6% of school children nationally with rates as high as 25% in urban centers. House mice and cockroaches are potent asthma triggers.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a prevention-based, highly effective approach proven to reduce pest complaints and pesticide use by up to 90% in schools and other public buildings. IPM practices such as sanitation and exclusion also improve food safety, fire safety and energy conservation. Our newsletter highlights real-life examples of IPM in practice and can help you start an IPM program in your school district. For more information, visit www.schoolipm2015.com.

Tools for School IPM

Whether you have a well-established school IPM program or are just getting started, a number of free and useful resources are available online.

[The School IPM 2020](#) initiative resource webpage is a great place to start. Here you will find links to sample documents, fact sheets, presentations, checklists, newsletters and other school IPM aids.

- [Model school IPM manuals](#)
- [IPM checklists](#)
- [Pest sighting logs](#)
- [Pest Press newsletters](#)
- [School IPM laws](#)



What's New This Month



Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that emanates from rock and soil and can enter school facilities through cracks and openings in building foundations.

This January, as part of National Radon Action Month, U.S. EPA encourages you to test your school facilities for radon. To learn more, [click here](#).

Highlights

Organize an IPM Symposium for ICE 2016!

All individuals are encouraged to develop and submit symposia on IPM, including IPM in agriculture and communities including land care, schools and other facilities!

- [Model indoor air quality checklists](#)
- [PowerPoint presentations](#)
- [School IPM surveys](#)
- [Pest-specific fact sheets](#)
- [IPM training curricula for pest managers and school professionals](#)
- [Pest-specific training curricula](#)
- [School IPM 2020 eNewsletters archives](#)
- [IPM Cost Calculator](#)

IPM Curricula

A school IPM program is most successful when everyone is involved, including students. A fun way to get students excited and interested is to incorporate school IPM into the classroom curriculum. IPM lessons can prepare students to be informed, inquisitive and proactive participants in healthier schools and at home. Most available IPM curricula meet the Next Generation Science Standards and can easily be integrated into existing science curriculum.

- [A Classroom InPestigation](#)
- [Maine K-12 IPM Education](#)
- [Penn State Extension Teacher Curriculum](#)
- [eXtension IPM Video Games and Curriculum](#)
- [University of Arizona Education and Outreach](#)
- [Iowa State K-12 Resources](#)
- [University of Nebraska-Lincoln IPM in Schools](#)
- [IPM Sleuth](#)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Tools

EPA's Tools for Schools Action Kit includes checklists, factsheets and guidelines regarding indoor air quality, a concern directly related to IPM. EPA regional contacts are available to answer questions and can be found at the bottom of the *resources to get started* webpage.

- [The IAQ Tools for Schools Action Kit](#)
- [Resources to get started](#)

Get involved!

Interested in learning more about your region's school IPM programs and work? Join your regional working group and be a voice for IPM at your school/district!

- [North Central](#) School IPM Working Group
- [Southern](#) School IPM Working Group
- [Western](#) School IPM Working Group
- [Northeastern](#) School IPM Working Group

To learn more about school IPM programs in your state, [click here](#). If you notice that an active coalition or school IPM webpage is not listed, please contact [Mariel Snyder](#).

Symposia for ICE 2016 will be 2-4 hours in length and will feature 15-minute presentations related to the symposium topic based on 30 identified scientific sections. The deadline for submissions is March 2, 2015.

[Click here](#) for more information.

New Year, New USDA Farm to School webinar series.

There will be 2 to 3 webinars per month starting in January, all taking place at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Following is the schedule of webinars:

January 15
Farm to School Planning and Building a Team
January 28
Setting Goals and Establishing an Evaluation Baseline

February 5
Finding and Buying Local Foods
February 19
Farm to School Menu Planning

March 5
Food Safety
March 19
Promoting Your Farm to School Program

April 2
School Gardening
April 16
Curriculum Integration
April 30
Program Sustainability

May 13

New California Healthy Schools Act Amendments Require IPM Training

As of January 1, 2015 several [new amendments](#) to California's Healthy Schools Act will take effect to promote the use of IPM practices in schools and daycares throughout the state. The new regulations require schools and licensed daycare centers to report their pesticide use annually to the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). Additionally, any facilities that apply "non-exempt" pesticides must develop and post an IPM plan for the school or school district online. School districts without websites are required to physically distribute their IPM plan to all parents, guardians and staff. Exempt pesticides are 1) pesticides used in self-contained baits or traps; 2) gels or pastes used in crack and crevice treatments; 3) antimicrobials; and 4) pesticides that contain active and inert ingredients exempt from U.S. EPA registration.

An amendment to take effect on July 1, 2016 will require any school staff who apply pesticides to attend an IPM training course. The training courses approved by the DPR will be listed on the [DPR School IPM website](#) no later than spring of 2016. Regarding the practical implications of these new amendments, Rob Corley, field representative for the state Department of Education who covers Monterey County, said, "The real effect in January ... means that school districts will have to start taking much better records of all the pesticides and regulated ingredients they use." For more information on the new regulations and resources like School IPM plan templates and pesticide reporting forms, visit the [DPR School IPM website](#).

Building a School IPM Team

A successful school IPM program is supported by a team that includes all school employees, students and parents who each play a specific role.

Education and Communication

Although some responsibilities are shared throughout the team, such as reporting any signs of a pest and being aware of the school IPM Policy, specific elements of the IPM program are unique to individual team members.

Evaluating Your Program
May 28
Tying it All Together and Digging In

To register for these webinars please sign up at this [link](#).

Upcoming Events

February 18-19, 2015
School IPM Coordinator Training
DFW Area
[More Information](#)

March 4-7, 2015
5th Annual Green Schools National Conference
Virginia Beach, VA
[More Information](#)

March 24-26, 2015
8th International IPM Symposium
Salt Lake City, UT
[More Information](#)

April 2, 2015
Turfgrass IPM Workshop
Santa Maria, CA
[More Information](#)

April 6-8, 2015
2015 Imported Fire Ant and Invasive Pest Ant Conference
New Orleans, LA
[More Information](#)

April 22-23, 2015
School IPM Coordinator Training
Woodville, TX
[More Information](#)

September 23-24, 2015
School IPM Coordinator Training
Houston, TX
[More Information](#)

October 21-22, 2015



Ryan Davis, an arthropod diagnostician at Utah State University Extension shared his experience with teaching school staff about IPM roles. "Often, when I would talk with school personnel from nutrition, nursing, administration, faculty, etc., they would immediately want to pass me on to the next person, usually someone from custodial or

maintenance, because they are thought to handle pest control. As School IPM Program Coordinators, changing the minds of a (school) culture is one of our most difficult, but most important tasks. After receiving training these individuals universally agree that they have a role in keeping their schools pest free, no matter how large or small that role might be. A little education goes a long way. When you empower members of the school community by teaching them the importance of their individual roles in an IPM program, people want to help and it gives them a vested interest in seeing their program succeed." To view a list of school role responsibilities, compiled from school IPM programs across the country, [click here](#) .

School Role Training

The [Stop School Pests - A National IPM Standard Training and Certificate Program](#) is designed to give school staff the opportunity to learn more about their specific IPM responsibilities. Training material will be available in online and downloadable format, accompanied with an exam/quiz if the participant is interested in receiving a certificate/certification. Stop School Pests is still in need of individuals to review developed training materials. Please contact [Mariel Snyder](#) if you are interested in participating!

School IPM Coordinator
Training
Kingsville, TX
[More Information](#)

Quick Links

School IPM 2020
Homepage

About School IPM 2020

Make a Contribution!

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