North Central Region School IPM Working Group Priorities
2010-2011

For each category (Management, Regulatory, Education and Research) rank the top five priorities (5 high, 1 low) for moving school IPM forward in our region.

Management
Priority
Establish demonstration schools in each state, including states that have not had pilots in the past
Increase recognition/awareness of IPM
Develop realistic goals in our states for high level IPM in schools by 2015
Obtain resources (web site, money)
Establish sustainable coalitions in every state
Develop and make available easy to use, low cost reporting and record keeping for IPM in schools (e.g. iPest Manager)
1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) per state devoted to school/daycare Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
Provide schools with economic incentives, such as reduced liability and insurance
Work with Pest Management Providers to create and implement effective business models
Utilize state report cards to help determine training needs and goals
Create model state IPM law
Define an acceptable baseline for high level IPM
Schools assess IPM by doing annual self-assessments of IPM programs by district
Record accomplishments, milestones, evaluations
Go-to person for assistance

Regulatory
Priority
State Department of Education, health and safety regulations and policies that call for IPM
Mandate IPM training or license for all who service schools
State school board adoption of IPM policy
Establish and share Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) school IPM models/restrictions
State legislation
Seek state legislator champion to present successful legislation at NCSL annual conference.
School Environment Protection Act - partner with National Pest Management Association and Beyond Pesticides to lobby Congress

Education
Priority
Provide advanced training for pest management professionals (PMPs)
Educate policy-makers at district, state and federal levels
Provide advanced training for in-school IPM coordinators
Use the media to educate the general public about IPM
Provide training for change agents on how to diffuse IPM in schools
Market IPM in conjunction with other environmental improvements
Allow participants' input early in the process when implementing demonstrations or coalitions
Revisit working group marketing and outreach strategies

Research
Priority
IPM adoption cost/benefit
Evaluation of health hazards of pest and pesticides
Independent efficacy data on turf options, organic 25b, reduced-risk options, home remedies, stinging insects
Research corporate avenues for financial support of high level IPM in schools, e.g. cleaning and supply companies
School IPM adoption rates including cost/benefit of school IPM
Efficacy of training methods for school-district based IPM coordinators
Efficacy of options for head lice, e.g. combs, shampoo

additional write in priorities:
IPM options for managing bed bug infestations
Benefits of construction techniques that reduce pests