

North Central School IPM Working Group

Funded by the [North Central IPM Center](#)

Conference call, 8th of December, 2016

Participants:

- Clyde Wilson
- Marcia Anderson
- Mark Leshner
- Ruth Kerzee
- Jody Green
- Seth Dibblee
- Frannie Miller
- Alina Freund
- Tom Green

Agenda:

1. Update on North Central Working Group funding proposal
2. **Marcia: Recommendation for school district facility manager that can be interviewed about his IPM success story**
3. **Marcia: announcing upcoming EPA school IPM webinars**
4. **Update on Stop School Pests training and mini grants**
5. **Updates and miscellaneous**

1. **Update on working group funding proposal**

- Proposal for funding of the North Central School IPM Working group for the 2017-2018 period was submitted by November 18th.
- Thanks to those who sent letters of support!
- Final objectives included that the IPM Institute continues to host two calls, one for regional and one for national stakeholders. Results of grant applications will come in February 2017.
- Clarification on what the **national** steering committee and what the **north central regional** group does:
 - o The **NORTH CENTRAL School IPM Working Group** discusses school IPM matters in the **north central** region. Currently we are meeting bi-monthly by phone and exchange by email as needed. Link to website: <https://ipminstitute.org/projects/north-central-region-school-ipm-working-group/>
 - o Monthly on the 3rd Friday of each month the **NATIONAL School IPM Working Group and Steering Committee meets**. In this call representatives from each IPM region and advisors to the group meet to discuss updates from each region and general overarching current matters of school IPM. Link to website: <https://ipminstitute.org/projects/school-ipm-2020/>

2. Marcia Anderson: Recommendations needed for school district facility manager that can be interviewed about their IPM success stories.

- Link to the PESP Wire newsletters: <https://www.epa.gov/peps/pepswire-newsletters-pesticide-environmental-stewardship-program>
- Marcia is looking for facility managers to be interview partners to share and promote IPM success stories for the EPA's PESP WIRE publications that have been very successful.

Recommendations from the group:

- o Milwaukee Public School District. Michael Gutierrez recently retired but IPM Institute is trying to get in touch so see if he still would give an interview. The school district is currently IPM Star certified.
- o Winnebago Tribe. While they may not have a success story, this could still be an interesting perspective.
- o Westville School District, Seth Miller, millers@gowestville.org. Seth attended the EPA round table event.
- o Dubuque School district. Jim Brimmer has retired recently as well, it may be worth contacting the school district to see who his successor is. The school district was IPM Star certified in the past.

3. Marcia: announced upcoming EPA webinars

- December 13, 2016, 1pm CT -- Cockroaches in Your School...You Rarely Find Just One
- January 24, 2017 -- Pest of Public Health Importance and the Role of Integrated Pest Management in Schools
- February 21, 2017 -- More Than Just a Firm Handshake: Bid and Contract Guidance for Securing IPM-Based Services for Schools
- **Link to full EPA webinar schedule:** <https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/webinars-about-integrated-pest-management-schools>

4. Update on Stop School Pests training and mini grants

- Final Stop School Pests training files are at [eXtension](#), Dawn Gouge finalized the training files in November 2016. The training is available for free on the website.
- First request for a Stop School Pests training through the National Education Association (NEA) has come from the Indiana State Teachers Association Conference in February 2017. Mark Lame has agreed to be the trainer and will train custodians on Stop School Pests' custodian module. This will be the first in-person training using the finished modules.
- Alina will further work with NEA to potentially get the training be part of further state conferences to reach NEA's members.
- Ruth Kerzee and Sue Rathcliffe from the NC IPM Center have discussed to see how Stop School Pests training can be adjusted to fit the Illinois training requirements.

- They are currently exploring websites that could host the training for Illinois as well as working on helping the state to allow online training to replace in-person training (currently only in-person training is recognized for CE credits in Illinois). Sue is looking for funding for this work to be able to move ahead.
- Alina worked with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) to have Stop School Pests included in a toolkit of school IPM resources that NEHA develops for a project where they are connecting health departments with school districts. Including Stop School Pests training will give their constituents access to the training and broaden our reach, while filling a gap and avoiding that resources are created in duplication.
 - o Last call Alina announced that through the North Central School IPM working group there is funding for mini-grants available for those of the working group that would like to present Stop School Pests in their state in a presentation or workshop.
 - o No requests for mini-grants have been submitted to Alina so far, so if anyone still has an interest in this we are able to extend the deadline. Please [email Alina](#) with questions or to submit a proposal!

6. Updates and miscellaneous

- **Ruth:** Introduced the [Midwest Grows Green Lawn and Land forum](#), a peer to peer advice network for people managing outdoor spaces that will continue to meet as there is a big demand for that type of forum. An upcoming topic will be the cost of natural lawn care vs conventional lawn care.
- **They are still looking for panelists for an upcoming meeting. Participants could come from Indiana, Illinois, Michigan or Wisconsin. Contact Ruth Kerzee if you are interested!**
- Marcia: may be interested in the group, she is also working on a turf and lawn focused webinar and is looking for one more speaker.
- [Healthy Lawn Team](#) in Madison is a citizen group that is also working on natural lawn care, IPM Institute had contact with Claire Gervais in August 2016.
- **Mark:** Presented on school IPM to the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education to South Eastern Kansas super intendants. They are very interested in establishing an IPM program.
- Article published that proves that mice in schools are directly related to higher asthma incidence in students. All other rodents did not play a significant role.
<http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2587681>
- Clyde mentioned another good article on a similar topic: [Public Health Stops at the School House Door](#) <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/ehp530/>