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**North Central School IPM Working Group**

**June 7th, 2017**

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Funding for this Working Group is provided by the [USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Crop Protection and Pest Management Program](https://nifa.usda.gov/program/crop-protection-and-pest-management-program) through the [North Central IPM Center](http://www.ncipmc.org/) (2014-70006-22486).

**Participants:**

* Alina Freund, IPM Institute of North America
* Frank Laufenberg, IPM Institute of North America
* Michael Gutierrez, former Manager of Building Operations for Milwaukee Public Schools
* Tom Green, IPM Institute of North America
* James Lawrence, Milwaukee Public Schools Pest Control Lead
* Clyde Wilson, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
* Lynnae Jess, North Central IPM Center, Michigan State University
* Marcia Anderson, US Environmental Protection Agency, Center for Expertise
* Mark Lesher, US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
* Frannie Miller, Kansas State University

**Agenda**

1. Presentations on Implementing School IPM
   1. Michael Gutierrez, former Manager of Building Operations for Milwaukee Public Schools.
   2. James Lawrence, Pest Control and Crew Leader at Milwaukee Public Schools.
2. Working Group Member Updates
3. **Presentations on Implementing School IPM**

* Michael Gutierrez, former manager of building operations for Milwaukee Public Schools, and James Lawrence, Milwaukee Public Schools Pest Control Crew Leader, present on Milwaukee Public School’s IPM program
  + Michael Gutierrez, retired in January, 2017 after 40 years of experience.
  + 1988 building operations supervisor, Thomas William, made requirement that school engineers had to become licensed and certified in pesticide application.
    - Started as a 16-week class with Milwaukee area technical college
    - Final exam in Category 7.1 program
    - Class couldn’t be supported by technical college anymore
  + Supervisors now teach the content for the class; 7.1 pesticide applicators course available for all Milwaukee employees.
    - Required for school engineers
  + Incorporated 7.1 structural pesticide application into Milwaukee school district, which includes 157 schools, 6 service buildings, 60 recreational sites. Serves 78,000 students and +6000 staff.
    - 7.1 certification is not needed for monitoring or snap traps (just EPA pesticides).
  + Milwaukee Public School district is the poorest district in the state of Wisconsin, 80% of the children fall below the Federal Government’s poverty line.
    - 90% of students qualify for free breakfast, lunch and dinner
    - 30% of students are homeless
  + Schools and their role in the community have developed, in the 1980’s schools were empty during the evening. Downtime facilitated a thorough daily cleaning schedule.
  + Now: 90 of the 157 schools in the Milwaukee Public School district have summer programs that run all day until 6:30 PM. It is difficult to keep entire schools clean with an active schedule that includes weekend events.
    - Prevention and cleanliness are key components to success and require great communication with everyone involved in the school.
  + 38 schools per supervisor who performs quarterly formalized inspections of each school.
    - Inspection form and record keeping have been around since 1989. Pest application is part of this record keeping.
  + School engineer has pesticide application log, which includes documentation of physical snap traps, bait, etc.
    - The log is always checked before applications.
    - Before pest control team can make application they make a “building application service request”
    - No applications during occupancy of building, application is LAST resort
    - Whenever an application is made, APT requirement in WI—72 hours required posting notice.
      * Form outlines the details of the application
      * James leads pest control team, generally he fills out the form. Occasionally an experienced school engineer will complete this task
      * Form ensures contact information for the application is readily available
    - Edited the Tools for Schools packet (from Illinois) and created forms for other school personnel. Staff hand in reports to the school engineers.
    - Then supervisors review the engineer’s report collection and summary documents.
      * Documents include IPM procedure
      * Failure to complete this documentation would lead to disciplinary action for the engineer.
    - Contract through waste management to ensure waste and recycling containers are kept proper distances from school, engineers are responsible for cleaning these areas.
* James Lawrence, Pest Control and Crew Leader at Milwaukee Public Schools
  + Shari Cunningham from Univar helps James find quality 25B exempt products.
  + Bed bugs: Cimi-Shield (soy bean oil product, carpets, cracks and crevices) is an insecticide concentrate.
  + Bed bugs: North Woods has a product called “Sweet Dreams” (25B, soy bean oil) that works on hard surfaces for 30 days. This is a ready to use insecticide product.
    - Beware of allergies, strict procedure for checking school records before application.
  + Lemongrass oil, “Hotshot” has been an effective product for ants.
    - Tested an ozone unit that is only used on major pest problems
      * Ozone generator raises the level to kill any organism.
      * 4 hours--entire space is sealed off and staff member ensures no one enters.
  + James gets samples of products, trial runs at one school, then effective products are more likely to be purchased and used again.
  + Glad storage bags are used for a bad bedbug problem; require kids to bag belongings to reduce hitchhikers.
  + Never ending process of monitoring the buildings, providing presentations.
    - When bad practices are in place supervisor contacts principal to ensure staff are using best prevention practices for pests.
  + Incorporated the use of team protocol:
    - Protocol for teachers and building operations staff for bed bugs when it has been identified. Cleaning surfaces for sense of safety.
    - Depending on the school engineer; if responsible, James can leave chemicals with the engineers to ensure problem is taken care of.
      * At this point we check door sweeps, loose doors/mortar etc. to ensure the building has basic pest prevention infrastructure.
    - Four in-services every year to report and review IPM with school engineers.
* District is IPM STAR certified, key characteristics of the success of this IPM program:
  + High standards for sanitation/maintenance
  + Holding staff accountable (discipline and communication are key)
* Questions:
  + Mark Lesher—great job keeping everyone engaged. For bed bug’s coming in from students’ homes, do you do outreach to try and reduce bed bugs coming in?
    - M: We bring it up with the principal who works with social workers that reach out to parents.
    - Educating employees about length of product (e.g. for Sweet Dreams and Cimi-shield) has provided confidence in school safety.
  + Marcia: Very impressed with your language and program. Can I write a story about your school for PESP Wire? Yes.
    - Shared contact information for Michael, James and Brian (Michael’s successor).

1. **Working Group Member Updates**

* Mark: Earth day outreach at Delaware Roots school. Talked to principal about establishing school IPM program.
  + Another earth day function at US Army Base in Fort Leavenworth, presented on school IPM using SSP.
* Marcia: School IPM and bedbug materials that we had translated in Spanish are still in review.
  + Marcia will notify everyone when the Spanish documents are released.
  + If you have ideas for EPA webinars for next year, please share them with Marcia
  + Looking at rebooting weeds webinar, which was cancelled due to technical difficulties
    - EPA is going to a different venue for better audio, have had audio problems
  + Monarch butterflies will be one of the webinars for next year
    - Schools and IPM will be a part of the Monarch butterflies.
* Frank: Dr. Li from the USDA presented on a tick WG conference call regarding a school survey for tick borne diseases.
  + Online survey for schools on perceived risk of ticks
  + Districts in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania
  + 34 questions
    - Location, number of schools, demographics etc.
    - Pest management
    - Tick-borne disease management
    - Perceived risk
  + Goal: see risk from 300 schools to analyze the data properly. The survey went out a month ago, 100 responses. Survey will be open for 2 or 3 months and will try to get lots of participation.
  + Ongoing online survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LC689FZ>)
  + Connected Dr. Li and Dr. Anderson via email for potential EPA article