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THE PEST | NEWS DEFENSE | ROUNDUP

IPM in Schools - December 2018

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.

This newsletter is funded by the [North Central IPM Center](#). Regional IPM Centers are sponsored by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Crop Protection and Pest Management Program.

Stop School Pests IPM Training Renamed *The Pest Defense for Healthy Schools*

The [National School IPM Working Group](#)'s flagship free online training, *Stop School Pests*, has been renamed *The Pest Defense for Healthy Schools* to emphasize its focus on creating healthy, safe spaces for students and school staff. The rebranding is based on outcomes from a national survey of nearly 100 individuals working in schools.

Pests can damage infrastructure, spread disease and produce asthma-triggering allergens. Due to their behavior and biology, school-aged children are particularly susceptible to exposure to both pests and pesticides.

[The Pest Defense](#) is free and includes individualized educational modules for custodians, maintenance, facility managers, food service professionals, teachers, administrators, nurses and grounds professionals. Modules address how these professionals and others can help prevent pest problems as they go about their daily activities. For example, just ensuring exterior doors have sweeps that effectively close the gap between the bottom of the door and the door sill can reduce pest complaints by up to 65%!

Modules address tactics for preventing and eliminating pests that can be found in school buildings or on school grounds including head lice, bed bugs, rodents, weeds and more. The training was developed with support from [US EPA](#) and the [North Central IPM Center](#).

To learn more about how your school can implement this great resource or to sponsor a local training, please [contact Julian Cooper](#).

[Read the official press release here.](#)

News Roundup Subscriber 2018 Survey Results

Thank you to everyone that has completed our subscriber survey for 2018. You indicated a preference for articles on specific pests and pesticide risks, so we will be sure to feature more of those moving forward. If you have not completed the survey yet, we encourage you to take a few minutes and leave your feedback [here](#).



Supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

Tick-Borne Disease Working Group

2018 Report to Congress

Information and opinions in this report do not necessarily reflect the opinions of each member of the Working Group, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or any other component of the Federal Government.

Tick Troubles Continue

We've talked a lot about ticks this year as their habitat and the transmission of tick-borne diseases continues to grow. In a report to Congress, the Tick-Borne Disease Working Group reported that Lyme Disease has increased by more than 300% in the Northeastern states and by approximately 250% in the North Central states. Luckily, the winter months bring a temporary measure of respite.

The full report can be found [here](#).



Whatever Happened to IPM?

In the latest edition of [American Entomologist](#), an article published by Dr. Peterson, Higley and Pedigo proposed changes to the definition and practices of integrated pest management. They urge for a new emphasis on managing host stress rather than pest populations to help combat pest resistance to control tactics. In regards to school IPM, there are obvious limitations to this approach. How can we emphasize host resistance for medical pests such as ticks or cockroaches, when even small populations can transmit vector-borne diseases or trigger asthma?

For more information, the rest of the article can be found [here](#).



CHPS Webinar on School Design

[The Collaborative for High Performance Schools \(CHPS\)](#) will host a [webinar](#) on its newly revised National Core Criteria, a system of best practices and recognition for K-12 school design and construction. CHPS is the only organization with school-specific rating system, and the only one that prioritizes student health, safety and performance. The webinar is geared for public health professionals and focuses on how healthy learning environments are built into the criteria.

Read more about CHPS and register [here](#).

Upcoming Events

December 4-6, 2018 [Master Vector-Borne Disease Management Course](#), Houston, TX
December 5, 2018 [TASB School IPM Coordinator Training Region 1](#), Edinburg, TX
December 7, 2018 [All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: Pantry Pests](#)
December 11, 2018 [Fleas: Pet Annoyance and Public Health Issue Webinar](#)
December 13, 2018 [Taking our Breath Away - A Look at Asthma Disparities Webinar](#)
January 16, 2019 [TASB School IPM Coordinator Training Austin](#), Austin, TX
January 23-25, 2019 [California Weed Science Society](#), Sacramento, CA
January 24, 2019 [Rodents I - Behavior and Tracking Webinar](#)
February 6, 2019 [TASB School IPM Coordinator Victoria](#), Victoria, TX
February 7, 2019 [Rodents II - Prevention and Control Webinar](#)
February 11-14, 2019 [Weed Science Society of America](#), New Orleans, LA
February 25-March 1, 2019 [Turfgrass Management and Ecology Short Course](#), College Station, TX
February 28, 2019 [School IPM Coordinator Training Region 8 ESC](#), Pittsburg, TX

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The Pest Defense for Healthy Schools is funded by the [North Central IPM Center](#) and the [National Education Association](#)



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