Integrated Pest Management (IPM) For Schools and Child Care Facilities

This brochure is intended for school and child care facility staff, parents, and pest management professionals.

Everyone has a role in IPM to prevent and manage pests in and around schools and child care facilities.

Follow all appropriate federal, state, and local regulations. Always read and follow label directions before buying or using a pesticide.
INTRODUCTION

What is Integrated Pest Management?

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a proactive approach to pest management that aims to maintain the health of people and the environment by reducing the use of pesticides. It is an ongoing process that combines a combination of pest monitoring and action thresholds with cultural, mechanical, biological, physical, and chemical tactics to prevent pest damage. IPM relies on accurate identification and a basic understanding of the targeted pest and its host. This information is used to implement a management strategy that is effective and appropriate for the pest and its host. An integrated pest management program is an integral part of safety at schools and child care facilities.

Why is IPM Important for Schools and Child Care Facilities?

While many pests are simply nuisances, others can contaminate food, affect health and safety, and damage property. Stagnant pools or flooding can cause mosquitoes to breed. Cockroaches and their eggs, bed bugs and many weeds and annual grasses can cause allergies and asthma triggers. Pests such as cockroaches, mosquitoes, fleas, flies, ants, and birds also spread disease-causing bacteria, fungi, viruses and viruses.

An effective IPM program begins with making schools and child care facilities safe places and protecting them from pests that can injure people or ruin property. IPM programs can be very effective in reducing pest problems, and what their responsibilities are in the IPM program. Therefore, a pest management plan is a must and attention to pest control just has not become an everyday task. IPM can be effective in reducing pest problems, for example, preventing and removing standing water will slow down mosquito development. A primary goal of sanitation is to reduce or eliminate food and water sources. A facility inspection checklist is important when performing pest control. Several buildings and a ground plan kept for everyone to document any pest problems and correct the maintenance staff to see if appropriate action is taken.

Effective education is a critical component of IPM.звон

Every school district now has a pest control program, and what their responsibilities are in the IPM plan. Many schools are unable to attend the IPM program, especially with the limited funds for training or equipment. This can result in the school’s IPM program failing. At best, IPM education involves a variety of methods, such as meetings, service visits, field trips, newsletters, field days, class discussions, and memos to staff and parents.

Habitat Modification:

Habitat modification involves altering the environment to make it uninhabitable for the pest. For example, preventing and removing standing water will slow down mosquito development. A primary goal of sanitation is to reduce or eliminate food and water sources. A facility inspection checklist is important when performing pest control. Several buildings and a ground plan kept for everyone to document any pest problems and correct the maintenance staff to see if appropriate action is taken.

Physical Control:

Physical control, in general, is highly effective. When gloves and a dust mask are worn, pesticide application is not very effective. In the case of pest infestation, a pest control program is needed. To keep required records. The IPM program must address a variety of steps that the IPM Coordinator and PMP should always follow. IPM must be well-trained in all aspects of IPM including safe pesticide use. Safe pesticide use is a critical component of an IPM Program.

Pesticides: The IPM Coordinator should implement the integrated pest management program, serve as liaison with the past management professionals or integrated training program. The program must be developed and implemented to be effective. Pesticide labels are designed to protect children. There is no one-size-fits-all IPM program, and the IPM Coordinator can be the director of maintenance or any other key person who is assigned this role. An IPM program is only as good as the person who runs it. The IPM Coordinator must practice excellent hygiene in all aspects of food service and be trained in the proper uses of pesticides.

Appropriate Educational Outreach

Accurate Pest Identification and Monitoring

Ongoing Assessment of All IPM Tactics

Site-Specific IPM Plan

Key Components of an IPM Policy

1. Adopt a clear IPM policy, and an IPM plan that is implemented at the specific school or child care facility.

Safe Pesticide Use – A Critical Component of a Comprehensive IPM Plan

Safe pesticide use requires knowledge and diligence concerning:

- Pest identity and susceptible stages of pests
- Impacts of weather conditions and other environmental factors
- Calibration, application, and cleanup procedures
- How to minimize spray drift, surface runoff, and other off-target movements

- Possibility of sensitive non-target organisms and species
- Keep food service containers, empty containers, excess equipment.

- Use of any IPM tactic cannot substitute for other pest control methods. If one tactic cannot solve an insect problem that is caused by poor food storage or ripped window screens.

Some states require that applicators be certified to apply pesticides in and around schools and child care facilities. Certified applicators and individuals under their supervision must properly apply pesticides as directed by the state regulatory agency. Applicants are determined to be who own hazardous waste and other hazardous substances.

Setting up an IPM Program

Whether or not you have a state IPM law, it is important to have an IPM policy and a site-specific IPM plan. Take these steps to help correct the school or child care facility to IPM.

Veterinarian and Pest Control

Food service personnel must practice excellent hygiene in all aspects of food production. The IPM Coordinator and Pest Control Staff must coordinate or assist with the educational effort, and parents about the IPM program. The IPM Coordinator should coordinate or assist with the educational effort, and parents about the IPM program.

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What is Integrated Pest Management?

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a proactive approach used to help prevent pest problems. It relies upon the accurate identification and a basic understanding of the target pest and its service areas (very low action threshold), while clover in a regularly mowed area will not crowd out the desired turf (high or very high action threshold). In certain situations, physical control is highly effective. In other cases, pesticides may be the most effective control option. Choose the method that best fits your situation.

Sanitation:
A primary goal of IPM is to use physical and other controls to reduce pest populations and prevent them from becoming a problem. This goal is accomplished through the use of sanitation and pest identification. Sanitation is the act of protecting the plant by removing diseases or pests. Sanitation involves the removal of pests from the desired host or pest-sighting log should also be maintained. Physical control includes mechanical control, the use of all stages of bed bugs (but make sure the chemosterilant is effective)

Mechanical Control:
Mechanical control includes the use of traps for indoor, crawling insects and insect light traps for flying insects. These traps can attract and kill pests, but they are not effective against all pests. Mechanical control should be used in conjunction with other IPM tactics.

Pesticides:
Pesticides are chemicals that are used to kill or control pests. They can be used to control pests in a variety of ways, including as residual pesticides, which are applied to surfaces, or systemic pesticides, which are applied to the soil, water, or air. Pesticides should be used only when needed and used according to the label directions. Pesticides should not be applied to service areas (very low action threshold), while clover in a regularly mowed area will not crowd out the desired turf (high or very high action threshold). In certain situations, physical control is highly effective. In other cases, pesticides may be the most effective control option. Choose the method that best fits your situation.

Physical Control:
Physical control includes the use of mechanical and biological controls to reduce pest populations. Mechanical controls include mechanical traps, which use physical barriers to capture pests. Biological controls include natural enemies of pests, such as insect predators or beneficial soil microorganisms. Physical control can be used to control pests in a variety of ways, including as residual pesticides, which are applied to surfaces, or systemic pesticides, which are applied to the soil, water, or air. Pesticides should be used only when needed and used according to the label directions. Pesticides should not be applied to service areas (very low action threshold), while clover in a regularly mowed area will not crowd out the desired turf (high or very high action threshold). In certain situations, physical control is highly effective. In other cases, pesticides may be the most effective control option. Choose the method that best fits your situation.
IMPLEMENTING AN IPM PROGRAM

There are five basic components of an IPM program:

1. Pest Identification. For pest management to be effective, corrective actions must be tailored to the pests actually present. There are many online resources for pest identification, but in many cases visual comparisons with online images are more accurate for identification. Contact an expert from your state’s Extension Service, local gourmet agency, or pest management association for assistance in identifying your pest problems—whether they are insects, weeds, fungi, or pathogens.

2. Monitoring. Monitoring begins with a thorough inspection of the property (both indoors and outdoors) and knowledge of the pest’s biology and habits. Monitoring will encourage you to keep pests under control. Routine inspections (monitoring) are necessary to determine the presence and severity of pests. Since inspections can be time-consuming, tools exist to assist in monitoring pets. These tools include traps for indoor, outdoor, and essential. A facility inspection checklist is important when performing pest control for your facility. A facility inspection checklist should cover the identification of pets and grounds. A practical and comprehensive pest management professional is to take appropriate action if a pest problem is found.

3. Education. Education is a critical component of a pest management program. Even when other actions are not necessary, pest management needs to be done by everyone, and everyone can quickly communicate what action needs to be taken by the appropriate Coordinator or maintenance staff. It’s also important to take action when the pests aren’t at an action level, even though they may not reach an action level, and what the appropriate action is, if any. Pest education and awareness depend on the pest. At best, P.M. involves a variety of methods, such as meetings, videos, workshops, articles, pest management bulletins, blog discussion, case studies, and memos to staff and others.

4. Action Thresholds. An action threshold is the point at which the pest reaches an unacceptable level in the workplace. A threshold is a number that indicates how many pests need to be present for the pest problem to be considered significant. Pest action thresholds are set by the individual, the facility, or local/county/state agencies.

5. Use of Multiple Tactics. Successful pest management can be achieved by using a combination of tactics that eliminate unacceptable pests and strive to preserve natural pest control. For example, we use integrated control measures to achieve our pest control goals. We use traps, insecticides, pest control equipment, and other techniques to control pests. Each of these tools will be discussed in detail below in the planning phase.

Mechanical Control:

A variety of tools can be used to control pests, including traps, monitors, and equipment. These tools can be used to control pests, such as rodents, cockroaches, bed bugs, and many other pests. Properly placed traps can be used to control pests that are present in the facility. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations.

Chemical Control:

Chemical control involves the use of pesticides, which are chemical substances that are used to control pests. Pesticides are used to control pests, such as rodents, cockroaches, bed bugs, and many other pests. Properly placed traps can be used to control pests that are present in the facility. Chemical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations.

Sanitation:

A primary goal of pest management is to provide a clean, healthy environment for all facility occupants. Sanitation is essential to prevent pest problems. Sanitation involves the control of pests, such as rodents, cockroaches, and bed bugs. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations. Mechanical control of pests can be very effective in reducing pest populations and preventing future infestations.

Biocontrol:

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1. Ask about the PMP’s pesticide safe use practices and all other IPM practices. Locate and hire a reputable PMP. Your state regulatory agency has a record of violations and complaints. You should also ask for and check references.

2. Verify that the PMP is a certified applicator for the specific use (structure, turf, etc.) and will perform or supervise the application (even if your state does not require certification). All certified applicators are trained in fundamental (core) principles of pesticide use – basic knowledge such as proper use of application equipment, potential application hazards, mixing instructions, protective clothing and equipment, applicable state and federal pesticide laws and regulations, interpretation of pesticide labels, other components of IPM and more. Depending on the state and product, “supervision” may mean easily available by phone, or may mean physically present.

3. Accompany the PMP on a complete inspection at least annually, and communicate regularly about new or unresolved problems. Discuss the target pest(s) and pests present, and the data collected to date. Ask the PMP where and how they will be treated and how. Discuss IPM practices that are already in use and who will be responsible for monitoring and corrective treatments.

4. Maintain hard copies of (or immediately electronic access to) labels and Safety Data Sheets for every pesticide product that will potentially be used. This includes labels for products referred to as “organics,” “green,” “safe” or “nontoxic,” because all effective pesticides are toxic to some organisms. If you are concerned that the label directions and precautions cannot be followed for any product, resolve all questions before the application is made.

5. Read the contract provided by the PMP. This should contain the inspection and monitoring plan, pest prevention plan, non-chemical and chemical control plan, and the school’s or child care facility’s required roles in all contracted services. Only use PMPs that will document a complete IPM approach. In some states, you can request a state inspection if you have concerns about a PMP’s activities or results.

IPM – NO EXCEPTIONS

A good IPM plan will immediately implement all appropriate exclusion, sanitation and control techniques. It will accurately identify pests, establish thresholds, and monitor regularly. When thresholds are exceeded and non-chemical control techniques are known to be insufficient or not practical, chemical control will be done according to all laws – by certified professionals, persons under their supervision or multiple trained applicators. Pesticides should be used only when needed but not “as a last resort.” If every other method has failed because some pests are resistant and/or small infestations can quickly get out of hand, PMPs at best consider the exact circumstances before deciding the sequence, location and type of IPM practices – from exclusion, sanitation, and non-chemical control techniques to safe use of pesticide baits, sprays, granules, etc. A wealth of resources exist to assist with all aspects of IPM in schools and child care facilities.
Your Building

- All gaps sealed around doors and windows
- All cracks sealed where utilities enter building
- Screens with tight fit and holes repaired
- All weeds sealed in foundation, floors, walls, and roof
- Ventilation intakes and other required openings screened
- Pool covers installed on exterior doors
- All leaks in roof, pipes, or faucets repaired
- All inside drains clean and working
- All outside gutters and drains intact and free of debris

YES!

- Cracks, seal, clean, screen, and ventilate
- Holes and other cleaning supplies stored clean and off the floor
- Drains clean and screened
- Healthy lawn that is properly mowed to compete with weeds
- Beds and traps checked, maintained, and replaced
- Clean garbage disposal
- Bulk and traps out of reach of children
- Stored within one foot of foundation

NO!

- Exposed food, crumbs, spills, grime, or other food residues on any surface
- Empty food and other clutter
- Unclean pet cages
- Drips or leaks
- Evidence of presence of unwanted pests
- Standing water
- Water damage or constant dampness on wood, concrete, brick, etc.
- Weeds, mold, mildew, or damaged plant debris
- Overweeding impairs or trash cans
- Clogged gutters or downspouts
- Weeds producing seeds

Food

- All food (including pet food) stored in sealed, pest-proof containers
- Food stored at recommended temperature and humidity (e.g. “cool, dry” location)
- First-food-in first-food-out (FIFO)
- Expiration dates checked (not same as “best by” dates)

Food Residue and Food Garbage

- Crumbs, spills, and food wrappers cleaned up promptly
- Grasse and other food residue build-up prevented in kitchens, rooms, and cabinets
- Indoor and outdoor trash cans emptied at end of day
- Recyclables rinsed before storage or recycling
- Trash cans with intact plastic liners and self-closing lids
- Trash cans, recycle bins, and dumpsters not overflowing and kept clean
- Dumpsters at least 50 feet from buildings, if possible
- Only tightly closed plastic garbage bags placed in dumpsters
- Dumpster lids/doors kept closed
- Dumpsters not on concrete or asphalt surfaces – not soil or gravel

OUTDOORS

- Trees, shrubs, branches, grass, and plant matter at least one foot from building
- Woods, controlled if they cause health or safety concerns
- Ground slope and/or gutter release points divert water away from foundation

IPM Coordinator

- Regular inspections, monitoring, maintenance, and service, etc. as appropriate
- Pest logbook for anyone to report, plus any action taken (what/when/where)
- Review of and decision on all reported concerns
- All required notifications and posted notices of pest control service and re-entry times
- PMP service reports and all other required records maintained