

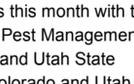
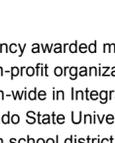


Healthy Colorado Schools School IPM Newsletter-April 2012

working with you to create a safe and healthy environment

COLORADO SCHOOLS PRACTICING GOOD PEST MANAGEMENT

Five Colorado school districts were recognized for their commitment to healthy schools through Integrated Pest Management (IPM). On March 27, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency presented the 2012 PestWise Awards at the 7th International IPM Symposium in Memphis, Tennessee. Twenty-four school districts nationwide were recognized. Colorado school districts honored are Denver Public Schools, Boulder Valley School District, St. Vrain Valley School District, Thompson School District, and Sterling School District.



EPA AWARD

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded more than \$1 million in six multi-year grants to universities and non-profit organizations this month with the goal of supporting school districts nation-wide in Integrated Pest Management – including one to a joint project at Colorado State University and Utah State University. The facility manager in each school district in Colorado and Utah will be receiving more information on how they can participate in this project. School districts looking to implement a new IPM program can start with developing an IPM policy to formally state their commitment to IPM.

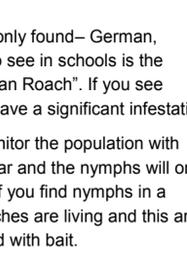
BATS ARE BACK

We have had reports that bats are returning to roosts in Front Range schools. Bats are a valuable component of our environment and consume thousands of insect pests of gardens, crops and forests. **All 18 species of bats in the state are classified by the Colorado Division of Wildlife as non-game mammals and are protected by law.**

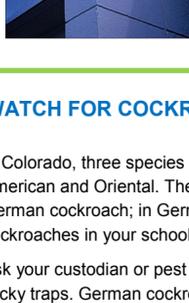
While bats are not considered a major reservoir of rabies (less than 0.5% of bats are infected with rabies), they may still pose a health threat to humans, and should be approached with caution. Physical contact with bats and exposure to bat droppings should be avoided. School sites which regularly encounter bats on the premises should have an on-going student/staff/faculty education program to reduce potential for contact. Contact the local health department if a person or pet has had direct contact with a bat.



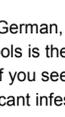
Little brown bat



Big brown bat



Bat Exclusion
Mesh bird netting secured at the top but not the bottom is used to allow bats to exit but not reenter (IFAS extension)

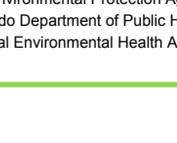


WATCH FOR COCKROACHES

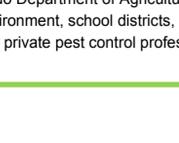
In Colorado, three species of cockroaches are commonly found– German, American and Oriental. The one you are most likely to see in schools is the German cockroach; in Germany it is called the “Russian Roach”. If you see cockroaches in your school in the daytime, you may have a significant infestation.

Ask your custodian or pest control professional to monitor the population with sticky traps. German cockroaches do not move very far and the nymphs will only move a few feet from where their egg case hatched. If you find nymphs in a monitoring trap, you know exactly where the cockroaches are living and this area needs to be cleaned, uncluttered, and possibly treated with bait.

Poor sanitation may help sustain cockroaches, but even clean environments can harbor roaches. Steps for good sanitation include placing (preferably metal) baskets in all floor drains to keep drains clean; eliminating the use of cardboard boxes to store things in (because German cockroaches thrive in cardboard boxes); placing all food in airtight containers; keeping food consumption to designated areas; and maintaining clean kitchen floors, especially in corners and under appliances.



German cockroaches



German cockroach lifecycle



For more information contact:

Colorado Coalition for School IPM
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1177
970-491-1377

[http://coloradoipmcenter.agsci.colostate.edu/Communities](http://coloradoipmcenter.agisci.colostate.edu/Communities)

The Colorado Coalition for School IPM is an effort by Colorado State University, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, school districts, National Environmental Health Association and private pest control professionals.