

Healthy Colorado Schools

DID YOU MAKE ANY RESOLUTIONS THIS YEAR?

Even though it's February, it's still worthwhile to make one New Year's resolution. Will you join me this year and make a resolution to fix door sweeps on outer building doors as an effort toward sustainable IPM in schools? Preventing pests by exclusion is IPM, and almost all building maintenance budgets can afford to fix door sweeps as they only cost a few dollars a door. Fixing door sweeps and ensuring that windows and doors close

properly (i.e., no gaps) will not only exclude pests, but also improve energy efficiency and maybe improve indoor air quality by preventing moisture from accumulating. Excess moisture can lead to mold. Weigh the cost of preventing a problem versus fixing it after it occurs!

EPA has several webinar's on mold;

Mold and Moisture Control in Schools: Potential Health Effects and Safe Clean-Up Practices
And Mold and Moisture: Double Trouble for Schools

These webinars are available for viewing at:

<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/webconferences.html>

Special points of interest:

- ✓ IPM Resolutions
- ✓ School IPM Policy Template Approved
- ✓ Sticky Traps
- ✓ It's Not Too Early For Spring Cleaning
- ✓ Cockroaches

TEMPLATE SCHOOL IPM POLICY APPROVED

The Colorado Coalition for School IPM met for their quarterly meeting on January 27, 2014. At this meeting, the Coalition members reviewed and approved a policy template for school IPM.

This document addresses the "Why" of IPM and presents key areas of IPM in administrative language that is easily customizable to accommodate your school district's format.

IPM areas that were addressed include a general preface and

explanation of IPM, IPM objectives, transition time needed to fully implement IPM, key components of IPM, and pesticide use.

The template offers each school district a menu of IPM elements and from that menu, school districts are able to select the elements that best address their needs. [Click here](#) to view the template.

If you'd like to know more about the template and how it was developed, contact:

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Several members of the Coalition have offered to put together a step-by-step guide on how to successfully implement IPM into schools.

Pest management action plans for schools are also available on the [national Extension](#) website.

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USING STICKY TRAPS IN YOUR SCHOOL

Monitoring for pests, such as roaches, is the cornerstone of a school IPM program. If you aren't monitoring, you aren't practicing IPM. Monitoring is easy, so start your monitoring program today. Glue, or sticky traps/boards (monitors) are a simple, effective, and passive way to monitor for pests. Monitors work 24-7 to monitor for pests. There are various sizes and shapes and some come with attractive chemicals (pheromones) for specific pests. Choose the monitor that best fits your program or

particular situation.

Monitors provide a lot of information about pests in your building. When placing traps, remember to write the date, room/building, and location on the monitor, and record that information on a pest monitoring data sheet. Check monitors on a bi-weekly or monthly basis for pests and record pest types and counts.

If you aren't sure of the pest identification, contact CSU or your pest professional for help. Replace traps when they become dirty, full, or lose their stickiness (~ about 3 months).



Here are a few tips for monitoring traps:

Place traps against walls or windows

Adhere monitors to the ground, if needed

Avoid placing them where children have easy access

Let teachers know of trap placement

Use 20 to 40 traps, depending on school size

For more information about sticky traps and monitoring check out our new fact sheets; [‘Pest Monitor FAQs’](#) and [‘Using Pest Monitors’](#)

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY FOR SPRING CLEANING



We spend a lot of time indoors this time of year. This can lead to more clutter and a perfect winter home for pests. Here are some tips for custodians and teachers to keep pest presence to a minimum:

1. Identify, inspect and clean if necessary hard to reach places. Look under and behind furniture, equipment and fixtures. Periodically inspect for food debris or signs of pests, moving items as needed for a thorough inspection.

2. Keep shelving and storage closets neat and orderly. Dispose of cardboard shipping containers when new shipments arrive and store pest-attractive materials in clear containers off the floor.

3. Line trash bins with thick trash bags that fit properly to ensure that trash goes directly in the bag, and that bags will not leak. Regularly wipe down trash bins and wash out the bottom to remove any buildup of food for pests.

4. Restrict food and drink to designated areas and clean up spills immediately after they occur. If food is kept in classrooms, dispose of perishable food at the end of each day and store non-perishable food in sealable containers. Make sure to report to cleaning staff any spills on carpet or in hard-to-reach areas as soon as possible.

5. Monitoring, inspecting and reporting are crucial to the success of an IPM program. Note pest vulnerable areas (PVAs) – places that have potential access to food, water and harborage. PVAs are areas prone to infestation and require more intensive monitoring and inspection than other areas of a facility. Report pest-friendly conditions, or signs of pest infestation to the IPM coordinator, pest professional, or custodian.

COCKROACHES: A CAUSE FOR CONCERN

There are a number of reasons cockroaches demand attention; they contaminate food with their droppings and decaying bodies, and transfer bacteria to food and food preparation surface. Cockroaches can multiply quickly, and cockroach debris is an allergy and asthma trigger.

Stealth behavior

Cockroaches have a reputation for evading human capture through their quick maneuvers and ability to squeeze through small cracks. Did you know that cockroaches have another survival trick? Like an acrobat, the cockroach can propel itself beneath a ledge by running at full speed, diving off the edge and then, at the last moment, grasping to the edge of a surface with hook-like claws on its back legs. The cockroach uses its momentum to swing like a pendulum and cling beneath the ledge, upside-down. This pendulum swing has a similar effect to bungee jumping, subjecting the cockroach to three to five times the force of gravity! Read more about cockroach stealth behavior [here](#).

The American cockroach

The adult American cockroach is typically two and one-eighth to two and three-eighths inches long and has a glossy, reddish-brown appearance. Males have wings that extend past the abdomen, whereas females have shorter wings. They prefer dark, damp, warm locations such as floor drains, basements, sewers or storage areas. They are generally found in ground-level food storage areas and places where food is prepared.



The German cockroach

The adult German cockroach is typically one-half to five-eighths of an inch long and is light brown in color. Their small size and two dark parallel lines that run from the back of the head to the wings identify them. Although their wings are fully developed, unlike the American



cockroach, they cannot fly. The German cockroach is usually found in kitchens near dishwashers, stoves or sinks, preferring to hide in cracks and dark places where it is warm and humid.

IPM for cockroaches

The most effective way to control cockroaches is to prevent them from entering buildings and eliminate sources of food and water. Caulk and seal all holes and gaps that could serve as entryways or harborage, particularly in food service areas. Improving sanitation and making repairs are small steps that go a long way. Place sticky traps in infested areas instead of spraying in order to track movement, and identify locations of harborages to seal up. Use a HEPA-filtered vacuum to remove cockroaches and debris from harborages. Setting action thresholds, like those below, is one way to help determine appropriate actions.

IPM for cockroaches

Average number of cockroaches per zone	Action
0	None
1-2	Bait stations, check sanitation
3-6	Spot treat, add or replace baits, review sanitation
7-15	Thorough bait and crack and crevice application, revisit in two weeks
15+	Close facility and conduct thorough crack and crevice inspection and sanitation



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, Colorado Department of Education, school districts, National Environmental Health Association and private pest control professionals.

For More Information About The Colorado Coalition For School IPM:

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For All The Latest News Don't Forget To Check Out Our Website/Blog at:
www.ccsipm.wordpress.com

**FOR MORE INFORMATION & IPM EXAMPLES CHECK OUT THE FLICKR PHOTO SETS —
EXAMPLES OF IPM PESTS & METHODS**

IPM FOR SCHOOL GROUNDS

**SAVE THE DATE:
APRIL 21, 2014**

IPM FOR SCHOOL GROUNDS

Spring is just around the corner. Please plan on attending our workshop on April 21st to learn how IPM can help you manage your grounds!



IPM SUPPORTS HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

We want to support YOU in creating healthy Colorado schools! We are looking for more school districts to implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

deborah.young@colostate.edu to discuss your questions and set up an appointment.



If you're curious about the benefits of IPM or how other school districts are successfully using IPM to create healthy environments, please contact:

***Hey Valentine,
Watch School IPM Catch On!!!***