



Healthy Colorado Schools School IPM Newsletter– June 2012

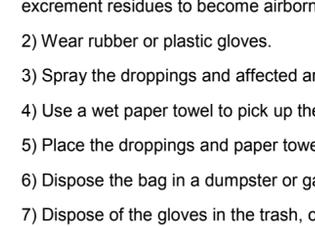
working with you to create a safe and healthy environment

IPM Provides Cost Savings To Schools

Case studies demonstrate that IPM costs are less than a conventional program.

- The Salt Lake City (Utah) School District reduced pesticide use by 90% and decreased pest complaints by 50% in three pilot schools.
- IPM saved West Ottawa (Michigan) schools \$10,000 annually on their pest management.
- Pesticide related expenses have decreased 20 to 25 percent at Baldwin (New York) schools.

Cleaning Up Mouse Droppings

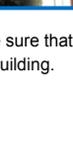


Mouse droppings may serve as a reservoir for disease. This summer, be careful cleaning up any mouse droppings you may find in corners and behind cabinets. Here are the recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention:

- 1) Feces should not be swept up, or vacuumed because this can cause the excrement residues to become airborne and be inhaled.
- 2) Wear rubber or plastic gloves.
- 3) Spray the droppings and affected area with disinfectant until wet.
- 4) Use a wet paper towel to pick up the disinfected droppings.
- 5) Place the droppings and paper towel into a Ziploc bag and seal the bag.
- 6) Dispose the bag in a dumpster or garbage can.
- 7) Dispose of the gloves in the trash, or for re-useable gloves, spray the outside of the gloves with disinfectant, then remove the gloves and wash hands with soap and water.



Mouse droppings are commonly cylindrical shaped with pointy ends.



Pest PROOFING your school

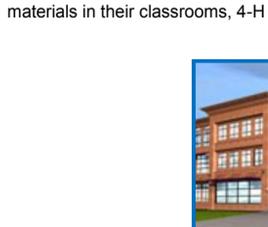
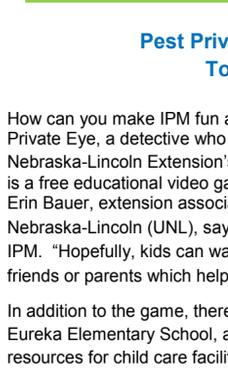
This summer, check the outside of your school for potential pest problems. Here are a few problems we saw at some schools:

If trees and shrubs are planted close to the building, they provide a good place for mice and insects to hide – and to eventually enter the building.



Inspect sprinkler heads and make sure that they are watering the grass – not the building.

Check for cracks and crevices in sidewalks where pavement ants can make a home.



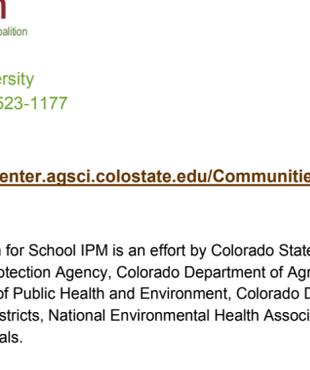
Inspect around portable sheds and buildings for areas where rodents live.

Pest Private Eye Video Game Allows Kids To Become A Pest Detective

How can you make IPM fun and entertaining for kids? Let them become the Pest Private Eye, a detective who helps schools solve their pest problems! The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension's [Pest Private Eye and the Case of IPM in Schools \(Pest PE\)](#) is a free educational video game that teaches kids about pests and IPM.

Erin Bauer, extension associate at the Pesticide Education Office for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), says the purpose of the game was to get the word out about IPM. "Hopefully, kids can walk away with one or two things that they can tell their friends or parents which helps bring IPM to an even broader audience."

In addition to the game, there is also a comic book of Pest Private Eye's adventures at Eureka Elementary School, as well as a teachers' guide, Power Point and other IPM resources for child care facilities. Educators can use the game and associated materials in their classrooms, 4-H groups, libraries or other environments.



Meet Penny Poe, junior pest detective! She can help your students learn about pests and how to control them with IPM.

Childcare Centers Join Colorado Coalition for School IPM

This spring, our Colorado IPM team inspected three childcare centers. Using low toxicity products is especially important for children, who are still growing and developing. They have greater metabolic demands and process pesticides differently than adults'.

According to Marcia Anderson, environmental education program specialist for EPA Region 2, **"Spraying pesticides is not very effective against ants, and more importantly, pesticide residues can build up in the dust on floors, where children may breathe or swallow these residues. Ant control should focus on good sanitation and building maintenance rather than routine sprays."**

Check out training modules from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on their childcare resources page (<http://epa.gov/childcare/training.html>).

IPM Cleaner Solution

The University of Florida IPM program recommends this solution to spray directly on insects and to clean up the chemical signals bugs use to communicate. It also removes bug allergens that may be present.

Add 2 ounces of liquid dish detergent to 28 ounces of water in a spray bottle.



For more information contact:

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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.