

NATIONAL NURSE’S WEEK STARTS MAY 6

We appreciate all the school nurses and health clerks who are essential members of the IPM team. The roles of the school nurses include being aware of any children with asthma or chemical sensitivities and considering any potential pesticide exposure when evaluating a child’s health complaint. It’s important that nurses as well as staff have

access to MSDS sheets for any chemical used on school property. Some schools have an approved list of pesticides, which have the lowest risk to human health and environment. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for regulating pesticides; they review and approve the manufacturer’s application for registration and determine that use of the product will not present an

unreasonable risk to humans or the environment.

[The Role of School Nurses in Integrated Pest Management](#) is a recent report about the important role school nurses play in advancing school IPM.

Check out our new [scabies fact sheet](#)



SUMMERTIME MEANS DEEP CLEANING; WHY GO GREEN?

[The Healthy Schools Campaign](#), a project that started in Illinois has done extensive research on the benefits of [green cleaning for schools](#).

materials and furnishing by preventing damage and premature aging. A square foot of typical carpet can hide as much as three times its weight in dirt and sand, which act like thousands of small knives, cutting and wearing our fibers in a few short years – long before its useful lifespan and before the district has budgeted to replace it.

NEA Health Information Network – [Environmental Health](#) – Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Targeted Disinfecting Fact sheets for classrooms, cafeterias, kitchens, athletic departments, and school buses.

Why go green?

1. Green Cleaning Helps Students Stay Healthy and Learn:

EPA estimates that children miss more than 14 million school days each year due to asthma exacerbated by poor indoor air quality. Green cleaning can help reduce the environmental hazards produced from certain chemical combinations.

4. Green Cleaning Preserves the Environment:

[According to ISSA](#), the cleaning industry consumes six billion pounds of chemicals, including non-renewable natural resources such as petroleum, and generates 4.5 billion pounds of paper products, requiring the cutting of 35 million trees annually.

[EPA Green Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting: A Toolkit for Early Care and Education](#)

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services [Household Products Database](#)

2. Green Cleaning Protects the Health of Custodial Staff:

Research shows that, [six out of every 100 custodians are injured on the job each year](#). Choosing [safer products](#) and [training staff](#) in proper usage can help reduce the number of injuries caused by caustic chemicals, respiratory irritation, and inappropriate or dangerous equipment.

For more resources on Green Cleaning check out these links:
[The Quick + Easy Guide to Green Cleaning in Schools](#)



3. Green Cleaning Increases the Lifespan of Facilities:

[Proper maintenance](#) and effective cleaning extends the longevity and performance of school building

[Guide to Green Cleaning: Healthier Cleaning & Maintenance Practices and Products for Schools](#)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE IPM ON SCHOOL GROUNDS WORKSHOP

Grounds supervisors from all over Colorado attended the Integrated Pest Management on School Grounds workshop on April 21st. Here's what you missed.

ADVICE FROM A SCHOOL IPM COORDINATOR,

Kent Holle, St. Vrain School District

Six reasons why schools should embrace IPM:

6. **Bragging rights** – parents, students, administrators and neighbors see that school districts are using methods to manage school grounds and facilities that are healthy for people and the environment.

5. **Long term cost reduction** – although there are start-up costs to correct problems, using IPM results in turf that requires less maintenance and little or no re-sodding.

4. **Compliments instead of complaints** – coaches, athletic directors, principals, parents and students are happier when the turf is healthy.

3. **Efficient use of irrigation and fertilizers** – soil and water analyses help grounds managers grow and manage healthy plants that overcome insects, disease and abiotic problems.

2. **Safer environments** – there is no place on the school grounds where students or community members aren't; no place is sacred, so everywhere needs to be safe.

1. **Improved morale** – coaches, players, and even the mowing crews are proud of healthy turf and grounds.

PREPARE YOUR SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR SPRING USING IPM

– use our checklist to see if your facilities are ready. – Deborah Young, CSU.

CALIBRATE YOUR SPRAY EQUIPMENT NOW TO PROPERLY APPLY FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES

– Jim Krick, City of Longmont, stressed the importance of calibration and demonstrated how to do it.

MORE ABOUT EMERALD ASH BORER

– www.eab.colorado.gov

Mary Small, CSU Extension, Jefferson County, showed us what to look for in declining ash trees – and other insects that look like Emerald Ash Borer.

MODIFY HABITAT TO DECREASE STINGING INSECTS

Ryan Davis, Utah State University, helped us understand the role of these insects. The objective of stinging insect management in schools is to reduce child encounters by eliminating prime foraging habitats through good sanitation practices and awareness.

If there is a chronic problem with bees and wasps around playgrounds, outdoor lunch areas, or school athletic fields, inspect

the area to locate the nests. Reduce the access to food, and use physical controls such as trapping and nest removal. Garbage cans on school grounds should have removable lids with vertical spring-loaded swinging doors.



Ryan Davis, USU, loves bugs!



COLORADO SCHOOL IPM STATEWIDE MEETING JUNE 30, 2014

IPM & ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE—A WINNING PARTNERSHIP

Students Learn Better in Healthy Environments

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[The Colorado Center For Integrated Pest Management](#)



