

Healthy Colorado Schools



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COLORADO COALITION WELCOMES TOM COOK

Mr. Thomas Cook, lead for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Center for Expertise in School IPM, will be visiting Colorado on September 17, 2013. We have plans to show him all the great practices in Colorado schools. For more information about the event, or to obtain copies of the program, handouts, etc... contact [Deb Young](#).



Special points of interest:

- ✓ Tom Cook, EPA's School IPM lead visits Colorado
- ✓ Spiders in Schools
- ✓ 2012 School IPM Survey Results
- ✓ How to Avoid Getting Stung by Yellowjackets
- ✓ BUG MAN — Dr. Cranshaw talks about stinging insects
- ✓ List of Colorado Schools Using IPM
- ✓ Time Out for Ticks

SPIDERS IN SCHOOLS

School staff and homeowners are reporting lots of spiders this month. The main spider to watch out for is the Western Widow (commonly called Black Widow). Brown recluse spiders are not native to Colorado; they live mostly in the southwestern and midwestern states. Occasionally brown recluse spiders will be carried into Colorado on

moving boxes

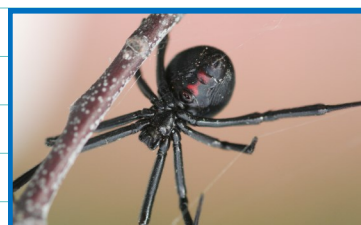
The best advice is to pay attention to your environment. Inspect old boxes or seldom-used closets before using things. Don't put your hands where you can't see them.

Click on [spiders](#) to see our fact sheet and learn more.

For more information on spiders, click on the link to watch our [Spiders](#) YouTube video .



IPM TIP:
The red-orange markings on the underside of the western widow can be quite variable



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SURVEY RESULTS:

Last year, we conducted an online survey of all school districts in Colorado and Utah. We wanted to find out what pest management practices were used by facility managers, and how we can help. A few of the findings:

- **About half (47%) of school districts said they were familiar with school IPM.**
- **85% of districts report having problems with vertebrate pests.**
- **Two primary barriers to IPM adoption are lack of staff and unavailability of IPM education and training.**

One of the key steps to implementing an IPM program is having a designated IPM coordinator (“The Bug Stops Here” person). The IPM coordinator is an important part of the overall environmental quality team for the school or district and interacts with upper administration, principals, teachers, custodians, food service, and maintenance on a regular basis. Only 17% of school districts reported having such a person.

The final report will be available online in mid-September.

WHAT'S BUGGING YOU?



2012 School IPM Survey Results
Colorado and Utah

SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN SCHOOL IPM

We have more than a dozen school districts participating in school IPM. Check out the list below to see whose leading the way in helping Colorado schools implement school IPM.

[Colorado Schools With School IPM Programs](#)



USE OF CHLORINE BLEACH

Some schools have restricted the use of chlorine bleach. Household bleach is an effective disinfectant, works quickly and is available at a low cost. Several schools and institutions have recently questioned its use. The active ingredient, sodium hypochlorite, denatures protein in microorganisms — killing bacteria, fungi and viruses. The downside is that

bleach irritates mucous membranes, skin and airways, decomposes under heat or light and reacts readily with other chemicals. Overuse of bleach, or using a bleach solution that is too concentrated, results in the production of toxic substances.

Be sure to follow label directions for all disinfectants and cleaning products. If your school approves the use of chlorine bleach, here's how to make and use the solution:

Add 1 tablespoon of bleach to 1 quart (4 cups) of water. For a larger supply of disinfectant, add ¼ cup of bleach to 1 gallon (16 cups) of water. Apply the solution to the surface with a cloth. Let it stand for 3 to 5 minutes. Rinse the surface with clean water.

WATCH OUT FOR WASPS

The western yellowjacket is often found around schools. Here are a few tips on how to prevent or at least minimize being stung.

Keep sweet items covered.

Bees and wasps, like children, are attracted to sweets. This includes recycle bins and garbage cans that contain soda cans or fruit scraps.

Change bin and can liners often and clean them with soap and water regularly.

Cover all outside garbage cans and recycle bins with a self-closing lid.

Don't walk barefooted on the playground or in the yard.

Don't harass the wasps by swatting at them or going near nests.

When a yellowjacket nest is spotted, it is best to leave it at a distance and have a professional come in and remove it at night.



Western yellowjacket nest entrance at the base of a brick wall.
W. Cranshaw

In Colorado, people are stung most often by the Western yellowjacket or the European paper wasp.

BUG MAN ON CAMPUS—DR. CRANSHAW HAS THE ANSWER!

Bug questions I am getting:

People complaining about stinging problems with yellowjackets (often described as bees), an annual occurrence as the colonies are at peak size, starting to break up, and the wasps are cranky:

<http://bspm.agsci.colostate.edu/files/2013/03/Yellowjackets.pdf>



Western yellowjacket scavenging syrup covered corn fritters.
W. Cranshaw

The western yellowjacket is a notorious pest around outdoor dining areas and is, by far, the most important stinging insect in the western United States. It is a scavenger that primarily feeds on dead animal material and available sweets. Nests are made of paper but occur underground or in cavities near the ground and are not visible unless uncovered.



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**

TIME-OUT FOR TICKS

Some 30 species of ticks occur in Colorado. We care because bacteria, viruses and/or protozoa can be transmitted when infected ticks feed on people. Both of the common ticks in Colorado — the Rocky Mountain wood tick and the American dog tick — can transmit Colorado tick fever, tularemia and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. These ticks are usually found on grasses and low plants, waiting to attach to a host. They don't fall from trees, jump or fly!

Western black-legged ticks, which transmit Lyme disease in the Pacific Coast states, are not known to occur in Colorado. However, the [Center for Disease Control](#) announced (8/19/2013) that the actual number of Lyme disease cases in the U. S. may be ten times higher than previously reported.

For more information check out our [Tick](#) fact sheet.



Rocky Mountain Wood Tick



Engorged American Dog Tick

