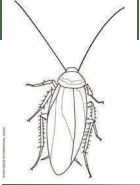


Healthy Colorado Schools



APRIL TIP OF THE MONTH: COCKROACHES

In Colorado, there are three species of cockroaches – German, American and Oriental. The most common here is the German cockroach; in Germany it is called the “Russian Roach”. It is commonly found in kitchens. In general, daytime sightings of cockroaches indicate a significant infestation.

The single most critical step in cockroach management is careful monitoring using a sticky trap. German cockroaches do not move extensive distances; nymphs will only move a few feet from where their egg case hatched. Finding nymphs in a monitoring trap indicates that you are exactly where the cockroaches are infesting; this is the location that 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 (metal) baskets in all floor drains to keep drains clean;
- ◆ eliminating the use of cardboard boxes to store things in; German cockroaches thrive in cardboard boxes;
- ◆ placing all food in air-tight containers;
- ◆ keeping food consumption to designated areas;
- ◆ maintaining clean kitchen floors, especially in corners and under appliances.

Keep Colorado schools pest free