

## What Is IPM?

IPM stands for “Integrated Pest Management”, a common-sense strategy that focuses on long-term solutions to pest problems based on better understanding of pest biology with minimum impact on human health and the environment.

In an IPM approach, pesticides are not relied upon as the only response to a pest problem, but are part of an integrated approach with other tactics. When needed, only low-impact products are used.

IPM solutions are based on understanding pest biology and behavior. Key concepts:

- Long-term solutions
- Prevention and avoidance through pest barriers such as window screens, caulked cracks, door sweeps, and good sanitation
- Monitoring and identification of pests
- Treatment: A combination of mechanical (traps), physical (removal), and when necessary, chemical methods.

A school that uses an IPM approach can **reduce long-term costs** by dealing with the causes of the problem, not just the symptoms. This approach leads to **healthier children** and a **healthier environment**.



## Integrated Pest Management (IPM) In Oregon Schools

## Legal Requirements and Practical Solutions to Reducing Pests in Oregon Schools

# What Are The Concerns?

## **Academic Achievement**

A healthier environment leads to healthier children. Healthier children have a higher academic achievement.

## **Asthma and Absenteeism**

The number one cause of absenteeism in the United States is asthma. Most exacerbations are due to environmental triggers. Common pests in schools such as mice and cockroaches are asthma triggers.

## **Disease Vectors**

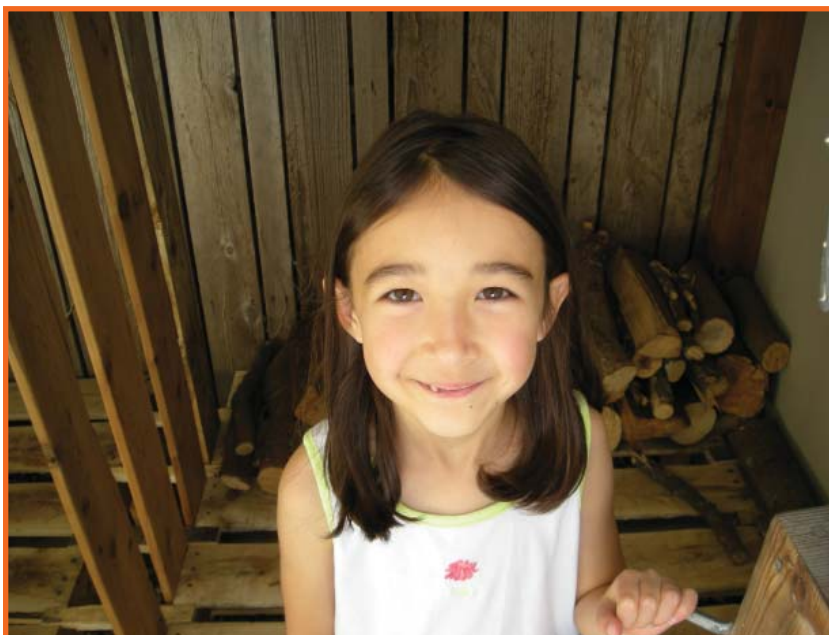
Rodents, cockroaches, feral cats, nesting birds, and other pests can all be disease vectors. Stings from yellow jackets can cause anaphylactic shock.

## **Children and Pesticides**

Children are NOT little adults. They are still growing and developing. They have greater metabolic demands, as well as anatomic and physiological differences that make them more susceptible to the risks associated with pesticides.

## **Pesticide Misuse**

Monthly preventative pesticide applications and unsanctioned use of pesticides by well-meaning school employees increase the risks to people and the environment.





## What Does The Law Require?

**Effective July 1, 2012**, ORS 634.740 requires **all public and private K-12 schools and community colleges** to have an IPM Plan in place, a designated IPM Coordinator, and a list of acceptable low-impact pesticides.

The IPM Plan must **give preference to the use of nonchemical pest control measures** by focusing on the prevention of pest problems by working to reduce or eliminate conditions that attract pests. Pests need food, water, and shelter. Good housekeeping and sealing up access points greatly reduces pests.

A plan **must include “regular monitoring and inspections** to detect pests, pest damage and unsanctioned pesticide usage.” The law requires staff be educated “about sanitation, monitoring and inspection and about pest control measures.” The OSU School IPM Program can help (see back of this pamphlet).

Any plan **must exclude “the application of pesticides on a routine schedule** for purely preventive purposes, other than applications of pesticides designed to attract or be consumed by pests,” and “the application of pesticides for purely aesthetic purposes.”

*This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Please call 541-737-4411 for further information.*

**The School IPM Coordinator is responsible for** overseeing pest prevention efforts, providing for the identification and evaluation of pest problems, and assuring that pesticide applications are proper and lawful (including pesticide selection, giving notice, posting warnings, and keeping records).

**The Coordinator must complete at least six hours of training each year.** The training must include a general review of IPM principles and the requirements of ORS 634.700 to 634.750.

**The low-impact pesticides list** must include pesticides that do not have the signal words “warning” or “danger” on the label, and are not classified as a human carcinogen or probable/likely to be a human carcinogen under EPA guidelines.



# Where Can We Go For Help?

**OSU's School IPM Program** provides comprehensive assistance for schools to improve pest management while reducing costs, workload, and pesticide use (It's our mission!).

As required by ORS 634.700 - 634.750, we created a model IPM plan for use in Oregon schools. We created and provide an OSU-approved annual training for school IPM coordinators. In collaboration with the Oregon School Facilities Management Association (OSFMA), we have established a School IPM Coalition for peer sharing of successful IPM strategies, and to provide training and information at OSFMA zone meetings and at OSFMA's annual conference.

Click on the "IPM in Schools" website link at [www.ipmnet.org/tim](http://www.ipmnet.org/tim) for links to the following:

- Our contact information
- Model IPM plan for use in Oregon schools
- License requirements for those who apply pesticides on school property
- Full text of ORS 634.700 - 634.750 that requires IPM in all Oregon schools
- Upcoming events such as school IPM coordinator training and coalition events



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