

Basic Steps in IPM Implementation



- 1 Identify key staff to oversee IPM Policy
- 2 Create a chain of communication between members
- 3 Ensure at least one *Go-To* person for each school
- 4 Name one *Go-To* person at the District Level as IPM Coordinator
- 5 Identify responsibilities of facility and grounds staff; list/post those responsibilities
- 6 Identify any outside contractors who will deal with pests on your district property
- 7 Ensure they use Integrated Pest Management by requesting a written protocol for pesticide use, record-keeping and an emphasis on scouting, monitoring and prevention rather than reliance on chemicals
- 8 Expect key IPM personnel to participate in IPM trainings and make use of online resources
- 9 Promote in-house trainings
- 10 Promote monthly discussions regarding pest activity, expected activity and news on IPM issues
- 11 Use monitoring and recordkeeping; without these practices you are not doing IPM
- 12 Keep all records, including pesticide use in easy access in one well known area, and managed by the IPM Coordinator
- 13 Establish communication protocol for other school staff, teachers, administration, building and field users from the community
- 14 Have a written policy in place for important decisions such as closing down areas with stinging insect activity, or limiting use of an athletic field when turf is overstressed
- 15 Have a written policy in place for the use of food or snacks in classrooms and other rooms not intentionally created for food consumption
- 16 Make your district's IPM protocols known when users from the community request building or grounds use
- 17 Promote education regarding pests and Integrated Pest Management
- 18 Establish cultural practices for specific areas in buildings, on grounds and along the exteriors of the schools
- 19 Create and use maps for both indoor areas and outdoor areas, and note any pest concerns as part of your recordkeeping
- 20 Clearly understand the pesticide use laws in your state and municipality; ignorance of them is not an excuse
- 21 Use success stories of IPM, as well as the concerns about pesticide use, pests and children's health as ways to raise the level of awareness in staff and community
- 22 Use success stories of IPM, as well as the concerns about pesticide use, pests and children's health as ways to request funding for IPM cultural methods which represent a change in previous years' budget
- 23 Research cultural changes and building/field renovations that will reduce pest pressure in the future