

# School & Home Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Newsletter – June 2016



COLLEGE OF  
AGRICULTURE  
& LIFE SCIENCES  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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## Online IPM Resources

*Authored by Rosemary Hallberg, Southern Region IPM Center.*

Three years ago, the principal at John McDonogh High School in New Orleans knew he needed help with multiple pest problems at the school but wasn't sure where to start. Now websites exist that provide school personnel with materials on how to use integrated pest management to handle a pest problem.

In 2014, a number of collaborating institutions led by University of Arizona and Janet Hurley at Texas A&M AgriLife received two separate grants from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide online resources on integrated pest management (IPM) for school personnel. The Stop School Pests team used their grant to focus on education and training for personnel, while Hurley and collaborating scientists created a one-stop online "big box store" of IPM resources, including documents, training, pest ID pamphlets, state legislation and more.

The training website, **Stop School Pests ([stopschoolpests.org](http://stopschoolpests.org))**, resulted from a collaboration of 42 people from federal and state agencies, universities, school districts, tribes, advocacy organizations and industry. Together they proposed to build a resource that would increase IPM adoption in K-12 schools and reduce the risks from pests and repeated pesticide use.

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# STOP SCHOOL PESTS - A NATIONAL IPM STANDARD TRAINING AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

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Stop School Pests provides modifiable PowerPoint presentations for in-class teaching and self-guided online courses. Lessons are specific to different roles within a school, so that facility staff will have access to materials specific to them.



While some groups, such as facility managers and maintenance personnel, were eager to delve into the materials, others such as nurses and teachers initially did not think the subject matter pertained to them. However, several who participated in some of the in-class lessons said that they did not realize how much they did not know about pest management and were glad that they took the lessons.

“I have been a school nurse for 25 years, and I cannot believe I learned so much helpful information in just one hour,” said Mary Griffin, a nurse in Arizona, after attending a training session piloting the Stop School Pests School Nurse Module.

A softball coach said that she did not realize that spraying pesticides without a license was illegal in her state until she went through the training.

For personnel who need specific information or don't know where to turn once a pest problem starts, the iSchoolPestManager website provides over 1,000 resources, including the educational materials from the Stop School Pests project.

The **iSchoolPestManager** site was built as a searchable online mine of school IPM resources from every state. Staff from Texas A&M AgriLife spent several months collecting materials; then volunteers from throughout the country, even one from Israel, painstakingly combed through them to eradicate duplicates, outdated materials or references to materials that no longer existed. The initial 1,315 resources were pared down to 1,045 entries. Staff at the Pesticide Information Center in Oregon helped design and build the website.

# iSchoolPEST MANAGER



The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu and four main content columns. The navigation menu includes: About, What's New?, File Types, Regulations, Training Modules, Document Toolbox, Pests, Help, Contact Us, Show Me Everything, and AAA. The main content area is divided into four columns:

- Go Local:** Includes a map of the United States and a list of links: State resources, State IPM Programs, Laws in each state, State regulators, and University Extension.
- Just For You:** Includes an illustration of a school building and a list of roles: IPM Coordinators, Facility Managers, Custodial Staff, Grounds/Landscape, School Nurses, Kitchen Staff, Teachers, Administrators, Pest Mgmt. Professionals, and All Hands.
- What's Bugging You?:** Includes an illustration of a bug and a list of pest types: Ants, Bees & Wasps, Cockroaches, Pantry Pests/Stored Products, Public Health, Wood-Destroying Organisms, Flies, Occasional Invaders, Spiders, Rodents, Weeds, and Wildlife.
- Document Toolbox:** Includes an illustration of a clipboard and a list of document types: Templates, Fact Sheets, Action Plans, Presentations, Training, Guidelines, Checklists, Regulations, Posters/Signs, Log/Forms, and Award/Certificate.

The site is formatted for a standalone computer, with a separate link that will bring up special formatting for a smart phone or tablet. Resources are divided into four areas: geographically specific, professional trainings and other materials, insect-specific information, and groups of documents such as fact sheets, regulations, checklists and more.

Rather than duplicate information already provided at other websites, Hurley decided to link to them. For instance, self-paced instruction under "Training Modules" links to pages hosted by eXtension. Some of the PowerPoint presentations are located at Bugwood. Some of the educational links go to videos at university websites.

While the amount of information in iSchoolPestManager might seem overwhelming at first, users looking for specific information will be able to use the headings and sections to locate what they need more easily.

### **Additional information**

Stop School Pests site (stopschoolpests.org)  
<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/StopSchoolPests.html>

iSchoolPestManager site: <http://ischoolpestmanager.org>



Online publication: “[Handbook on Pests of Community Environments in the Desert Southwest United States](#)” by Nair S., D.H. Gouge, M. Rust, S. Li, U.K. Schuch, A.J. Fournier, D.M. Kopec, K. Umeda, P.B. Baker, L.M. Brown, N. Duggal. 2015.

This publication was developed through a grant from the Western Region IPM Center, and is available on the Arizona Pest Management Center website at <http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/Handbook.html>.

It covers all major arthropod, vertebrate and weed pests encountered in community environments in the desert southwestern United States, and will serve as a handy reference guide to support community IPM efforts in this region. The book consolidates available information into a single, reader-friendly unit that can be easily accessed online, or printed as necessary. Management measures for individual organisms are not presented, but IPM steps to manage most of these organisms in a practical, safe and sustainable manner are listed, as well as sources that provide information on specific management measures for individual pests.



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## **Webinars and Events**

Attend Free Sessions of the [Green Strides Webinar Series](#). View archived webinars [here](#).

Please join in for the [2016 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series](#). This webinar series provides information about good and bad insects. Webinars are free and open to everyone. Webinars will be on the **first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern time**. The webinars are brought to you by the following eXtension Communities of Practice: [Imported Fire Ants](#), and [Urban IPM](#); and by the [Alabama Cooperative Extension System](#), the [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#), and the [University of Georgia Center for Urban Agriculture](#).

Upcoming webinars include:

1. Controlling Roaches Before They Control You – August 5, 2016
2. Snake Identification – September 2, 2016
3. Don't Use Too Much Pesticide or Fertilizer: Learn How to Calibrate Your Lawn and Garden Sprayers and Spreaders – October 7, 2016
4. Rodenticides – November 4, 2016



For more information about upcoming and past School IPM webinars:

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/73368/2016-all-bugs-good-and-bad-webinar-series>

**July 8, 2016. 8:00 – 5:00 pm. Arizona Agriculture Pesticide Applicator Certification Training and Exam. Valley Telecom, 752 E. Maley St., Willcox, AZ.**

Free training. Training from 8:00 – 2:30 pm. Exam from 3:00 – 5:00 pm. Arizona Agricultural Pesticide Applicator's License. Limit to 40 participants. 6 CEU's available. Session and exam topics will include: Pest management, storage and disposal, pesticide labels and material safety data sheets, formulations, personal protective equipment, environmental protection health and safety concerns, mixing, loading, and applying pesticides, equipment calibration, updates on pesticide laws and regulations.

Pre-registration is required. Please register by sending Name, Affiliation, Mailing Address, Phone, and Email **no later than Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>** to: Connie Forsyth – Cochise County Cooperative Extension. Phone: 520-384-3594. Fax: 520-384-3681. E-mail: [cforsyth@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:cforsyth@ag.arizona.edu).

For more information about the EPA Schools program, visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/schools/>

For more information about the Community IPM, visit:

<http://www.extension.org/pages/23359/urban-integrated-pest-management-community-page>



For more information about School IPM in Arizona, visit:

<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html>

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