

# Youth Environment and Health

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# Pests and Pesticides in Child-serving Facilities: An IPM Newsletter

#### **UT Seeks School IPM Demonstration Sites**

Several schools have shown interest in serving as demonstration sites this year, but none have been confirmed as of this printing. If your school system is located in Middle or East Tennessee and you want to participate in a demonstration, please contact us soon as possible. Here's what a demonstration would entail.

UT Extension School IPM

Demonstrations

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Initially we <u>inspect</u> the pilot school and make suggestions for repairs that would help with pest prevention and control. Pest prevention repairs often result in energy savings and thus provide an additional bonus for the school. Some funding is available to help with the repairs that we suggest. In the

Child-Serving Facility
IPM Logbook

past we have paid for supplies such as door sweeps, caulk, drain cleaning solution and brushes, paint, plastic storage boxes for kitchens and classrooms, glue boards, mouse bait stations, and fire ant bait.

Next, we plan a meeting with the pest management professional, the maintenance supervisor, the cafeteria manager, the custodial staff, the school principal, the director of schools, and the county Extension agent to make them aware of the tools and resources that are available for the integrated pest management program to be successful. The school IPM logbook facilitates communication between the

# Special Points of Interest

- > UT Seeks Demonstration Schools
- Pat Barnwell Retires and Jennifer Chandler Assumes Responsibilities
- > Webinar on Rats, Mice and Rodenti-

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school community and the pest management professional. We ask someone in the school office, usually the receptionist, to oversee the school IPM logbook which involves recording pest sightings reported by the school community. We ask the pest management professional to review the logbook

when visiting the school to see where problems have occurred and indicate his/ her response by leaving the service tickets in the logbook. The logbook can be reviewed periodically to evaluate how well the program is working and to spot trends or hotspots.

During the school year we will ask for records from the logbook to evaluate how well the program is progressing and determine where we can assist if help is needed. We try to visit at least twice more before the school year ends when we invite maintenance supervisors from surrounding counties to observe school IPM in action.

Contact Jennifer Chandler, jchand11@utk.edu, (865) 974-7138 or Karen Vail, kvail@utk.edu if you have a school in need of pest management assistance and would like to participate in a demonstration.



During an inspection at an IPM demonstration school, Pat Barnwell points out the open door on the dumpster that can allow pest entry.

# Pat Barnwell "Retires" and Jennifer Chandler Assumes Responsibilities

Many of you interacted with Pat Barnwell, Extension Program Assistant III, for school IPM-related matters

during the past 15 years. Pat called you for the pest management surveys we conducted every other year and was the one to remind you that logbook records for the demonstration schools were due. She understood the importance of speaking to the food service manager or custodian knowing that they were on the front lines and knew the background to the pest problems we were solving. She had that authoritative voice that caused you to stand up straight and respond to her inquires. Well, August 31<sup>st</sup> was Pat's last day with UT's Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology and the Urban IPM program. We will miss her dedication, hard work and perseverance that served our program so well and we wish her well with her next journey.

Jennifer Chandler, Research Specialist II, also with our Urban IPM program, will increase her efforts towards school IPM and will be assuming Pat's responsibilities. Please welcome Jennifer when you have the opportunity.

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Photo: Janet Hurley, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

### Webinar on Rats, Mice, and Rodenticides

Although this webinar addresses rodent problems in home settings, much of it will apply to the school setting too.

This Friday, November 4 at 2:00 pm EDT

Location: http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/fireant

Many types of rodents may cause problems in home settings. Rats and mice are the most troublesome and potentially harmful rodents infecting our structures. There have also been changes to the types of rodenticides that are available to control these pests. Learn key facts about each pest, rodenticides and other control tactics from Ted Bruesch, Liphatech, Inc.

Moderated by <u>Tim Crow</u>, and <u>David Koon</u>, Regional Extension Agents, Alabama Cooperative Extension System. Click <u>here</u> to login as a guest and participate in the live event. Note: on November 4, the link to the live webinar opens about 15 minutes before the webinar. If you try to log in earlier, you will get an error message.

For more information visit us at <a href="https://learn.extension.org/events/2335">https://learn.extension.org/events/2335</a>

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Comments or questions on this newsletter?

Contact kvail@utk.edu

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For more information about IPM in Tennessee schools and other facilities, or to view past issues of Pests and Pesticides in Child-serving Facilities, please visit <a href="http://">http://</a> schoolipm.utk.edu

#### **NATIONAL IPM INFORMATION**

eXtension's Pest Management In and Around Structures: Urban Integrated Pest Management http:// www.extension.org/ urban integrated pest management

National School IPM schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/

IPM in Schools Texas http://schoolipm.tamu.edu/

IPM Institute of North America www.ipminstitute.org/

School IPM PMSP—all schools IPM by 2020 https:// ipminstitute.org/projects/school-ipm-2020/

National Pest Management Association IPM www.whatisipm.org/

**EPA** schools

http://www2.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools

For further information about the IPM program at your school or in your county, contact your county Extension Agent or the school IPM Coordinator. For county agent contact information, please visit https://extension.tennessee.edu/Pages/Office-Locations.aspx

#### **Precautionary Statement**

To protect people and the environment, pesticides should be used safely. This is everyone's responsibility, especially the user. Read and follow label directions carefully before you buy, mix, apply, store or dispose of a pesticide. According to laws regulating pesticides, they must be used only as directed by the label.

#### Disclaimer

This publication contains pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. The recommendations in this publication are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. The label always takes precedence over the recommendations found in this publication.

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