January 2015

To: Pennsylvania Early Learning Practitioners

Re: Integrated Pest Management in Early Learning Programs

Thank you for selecting this self-learning module to learn about integrated pest management (IPM). The module explains how IPM provides safe and effective ways to manage pests. This module is most appropriate for directors who can make policy decisions. However, all staff may use this module for education and provide input on policy and practice for pest management. The module has 6 objectives:

1. Describe the components of integrated pest management.
2. Explain the health effects of exposure to pesticides and common pests.
3. Identify simple and inexpensive IPM methods to prevent or manage common pests.
4. Use the IPM Checklist to inspect your ECE program.
5. Develop and implement IPM policies and practices in your program.
6. Incorporate IPM principles into an existing pest management contract
7. Educate staff and parents about IPM.

This module addresses the following Core Knowledge Competencies:

- K7.1 C3 Evaluate the current practices for effectiveness and compliance with applicable health, safety and nutrition mandates and standards through instituting corrective actions in areas of need and consulting outside experts as needed or required.*
- K7.2. C3 Evaluate current sanitation practices within your classroom for effectiveness in minimizing transmission of disease and make modifications as needed.
- K8.3. C2 Interpret how your program’s current risk management plan impacts staff policies, procedures, and decisions made.*

An asterisk (*) indicates that Appendices of the PA Core Knowledge Competencies document offer additional information on definitions, including a further detailing of competencies, and alignment to other commonly-used documents. C2 competency requires all of C1; C3 requires all of C1 and C2. (From PA Core Knowledge Competencies online at http://www.pakeys.org)

After you complete the module, submit the Assessment and Implementation Questions. By submitting your responses you verify completion of the learning activities and assess your understanding of key content.

Submit your responses one of the following ways:

1. Online ECELS Integrated Pest Management Survey
   https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/B7G5Q9W If more than one staff member is seeking credit for completing the Integrated Pest Management module, each person must complete the survey independently.
2. Surface mail, fax or email the Assessment and Implementation Questions to ECELS.

Follow the instructions on the ECELS website Self-Learning Module page. These instructions are located at www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org Select “Professional Development/Training” on the main menu
bar, then “Self-Learning Modules.” Review the information in the box with the heading “Important Reminders.”

ECELS staff will review your work and, if needed, offer help to complete the module successfully. If you have questions, please contact the ECELS office by email at ecels@paaap.org or by phone at 484-446-3003 or 800-243-2357. ECELS will approve (3) hours of professional development credit for each person who successfully completes the module. After ECELS approves your credit, we will send you an email with instructions to complete the PA Key Evaluation Form. Once you complete the PA Key Evaluation Form, the PA Key will award your credit and send you email notification to view your completed Courses in the tab My Transcript. Processing takes approximately 3-6 weeks after submission of required documentation.

Sincerely,
Libby Ungvary, MEd Sandy McDonnell, MSN, RN, CRNP
ECELS Director ECELS Training/Technical Assistance Coordinator

Costs for the development of this module have been underwritten by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Child Development and Early Learning.
Introduction

Children are vulnerable to many environmental influences. Pesticides pose risks to growing children. This module will help you learn how to keep pests out of early care and education (ECE) facilities and reduce the use of pesticides by adopting integrated pest management (IPM). This module is organized into five sections. In each section complete the action steps. The five sections are:

Section 1: Integrated Pest Management: A Curriculum for Early care and Education Programs
Section 2: Integrated Pest Management for Child Care Centers-A Video Series
Section 3: Assessment of Current Practice
Section 4: Tools for IPM Policy and Services
Section 5: Documentation & Self-Assessment

Section 1

Integrated Pest Management:
A Curriculum for Early Care and Education Programs

Objectives: Describe the components of integrated pest management in early care and education (ECE) programs.
Explain the health effects of exposure to pesticides and common pests.


The curriculum includes information about IPM, what you need to know about pests and pesticides, how to implement IPM, and appendices with sample policies, forms and letters. Please disregard California specific information such as The California Healthy Schools Act (although the notification suggestion is useful in any program in any state).
**Complementary materials**

- Health and Safety Notes on individual pests
- Fact Sheets for Families
- Posters
- IPM Checklist
- IPM Presentation in English (PowerPoint presentation; 12MB) *Revised!*
- IPM Presentación en español (PowerPoint presentation; 7.8MB) *Revised!*
- IPM Presentation Handout in English (PDF; 604KB)
- IPM Presentación en español para imprimir (PDF; 870KB)

*This Integrated Pest Management Curriculum was developed by the University of California (UC), San Francisco School of Nursing’s California Childcare Health Program, UC Berkeley’s Center for Children’s Environmental Health Research, UC Statewide IPM Program and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.*


**After you complete the Action Items in this section, please move to Section 2, View Integrated Pest Management for Child Care Centers-A Video Series.**
Section 2

View Integrated Pest Management for Child Care Centers-A Video Series

**Objective:** Identify simple and inexpensive IPM methods to prevent or manage common pests.

☐ **ACTION:** Watch Integrated Pest Management for Child Care Centers - A Video Series produced by the Growing Up Green Child Care IPM program at the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. The collection of 7 videos may be viewed sequentially at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiRZqNDEqdU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiRZqNDEqdU) or individually at [http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/childcare/video_series.cfm](http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/childcare/video_series.cfm) the videos show the process of integrated pest management (IPM). The videos show tools and practices filmed in real child care centers.

The videos include:
* Integrated Pest Management in Child Care Centers
* Keeping Pests Out of Your Child Care Center
* Do You Have Pests in Your Child Care Center
* Getting Rid of Ants in Your Child Care Center
* Getting Rid of Cockroaches in Your Child Care Center
* Getting Rid of Mice and Rats in Your Child Care Center
* The California Healthy Schools Act (Although this pertains to California law, the information regarding notification is beneficial for ECE programs in other states.)

After you complete the **Action Items in this section**, go to **Section 3, Assess Current Practice.**

Section 3

Assessment of Current Practice

**Objective:** Use the IPM Checklist to inspect your ECE program.

☐ **ACTION:** Complete the Integrated Pest Management Checklist to check your program’s buildings and grounds. You are looking for the presence of pests or potential for pests. Directors use the checklist. Other staff is encouraged to use the checklist too. Link to checklist: [http://www.ucsfchildcarehealth.org/pdfs/Curricula/ipm/ipm_checklist.pdf](http://www.ucsfchildcarehealth.org/pdfs/Curricula/ipm/ipm_checklist.pdf)

- Read pages 1-2 of the checklist. This includes instructions, helpful tools, how to look for evidence of pests or damage. Then complete and submit pages 3-7 of the checklist. Pages 8-10 offer additional explanation of checklist items.
- If any pests are found, create an **IPM Action Plan** for each pest such the **Sample Action Plan for Cockroaches** on page 27 of the [resource referenced in Section 1: Integrated Pest Management: A Curriculum for Early Care and Education Programs](#).

After you complete the **Action Items in this section**, go to **Section 4, Tools for IPM Policy and Services.**

Section 4
Tools for IPM Policy and Services

Objective: Develop and implement an IPM policy in your program.
Incorporate IPM guidelines into your existing pest management contract.
Educate staff and parents about IPM.

☐ ACTION: review the following Guidelines for IPM for Pest Management Contracts in Childcare Center from Penn State Extension College of Agricultural Sciences. The six handouts are together in the link below or individually as #1-#6 below. http://extension.psu.edu/pests/ipm/schools-childcare/childcare/guidlines-for-ipm-for-pest-management-contracts-in-childcare-centers-1

Click below for the Spanish version:
Guidelines for IPM for Pest Management Contracts in Childcare Centers "Spanish Version"

- #1 Set Up Your IPM Program in Eight Steps
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is common-sense pest control. IPM relies on pest prevention, monitoring for pest problems, and control methods. Control methods include traps, gels and baits to reduce pesticide exposures. Using IPM in your facility will control pests more effectively. In addition, these practices protect children from the health risks associated with exposure to pests and pesticides.

☐ ACTION: Develop an Integrated Pest Management Policy for your program.

Scroll to Model Child Care Health Policies. You may use the PDF version or the form field version that allows entering specific information for your center that can be saved as a document on your computer. The PDF version is on page 52-53. The form field version is on page 73-74 of the MCCHP Form Fields document.

Option 2: Use the Sample Penn State IPM Policy below

- #2 Sample IPM Policy for Childcare Facilities
This is a policy requiring Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for your childcare facility. The policy makes it clear to employees and contractors that they must comply with IPM. The policy serves as a guide for the pest manager as he or she makes decisions on pest control.

- #3 Guidelines for IPM for Pest Management Contracts in Childcare Centers
These guidelines help you include IPM practices into an existing pest management contract. More comprehensive contract guidelines can be found on page 17 of the “IPM for Pennsylvania Schools: A How to Manual” available for a free download at http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/ags82.pdf. Hard copies cost $10.00 and can be ordered by calling 1-877-345-0691. If your current contractor is unable to provide IPM services, find other contractors who can provide these services.

- #4 How to Hire Integrated Pest Management Services
A competent integrated pest management (IPM) professional will become your partner. They will provide quality least-hazardous pest control. Also, they will provide recommendations for sanitation, maintenance and organization that prevent pest problems in the future.

- **#5 How Do I Know I’m Receiving IPM Services?**
  Use these three questions as a guide to determine if you are receiving IPM services:
  1. Does your contractor routinely monitor for pests so that problems can be avoided?
  2. Are baits and traps used instead of pesticide sprays and ONLY when pests are present?
  3. Does your pest control technician provide suggestions to prevent future pest problems?

- **#6 Parental Notification Guidelines for Pesticide Application**
  Inform parents if pesticide application is needed. Pesticides are poisonous chemicals designed to kill or eliminate pests. Exposure to certain pesticides during childhood is linked to asthma, some reproductive, developmental and behavioral disorders, and cancer. Pesticides can endanger the health of any child. Children with asthma, and other medically or chemically-sensitive children are more vulnerable to pesticides. The PA Department of Agriculture maintains a Pesticide Hypersensitivity Registry listing individuals who are medically documented as chemically sensitive. Pest control companies are required to notify sensitive individuals prior to spraying. Please see [http://www.pested.psu.edu/resources/facts/facthyp.pdf](http://www.pested.psu.edu/resources/facts/facthyp.pdf) or call 610-489-1003 for more information on the Registry. Three sample forms, adapted from “IPM for Pennsylvania Schools: A How to Manual,” for child care are available in this module.

- **ACTION:** Inform and educate staff and parents about IPM using the materials in this module. Sharing your program’s policy is an important first step so families know the steps you are taking to manage pests. Think about how you will use the Health and Safety Notes and Fact Sheets for Families in the Integrated Pest Management Tool Kit for Early Care and Education Programs curriculum in this module.

- **ACTION:** Review the following documents:
  Letters from the **School IPM for Pennsylvania Schools, A How-to Manual**
  - Sample Notification Letter
  - Sample Pest Control Information Sheet

  - **IPM Action Plan for Bed Bugs** ([Penn State Extension](http://www.extension.org/pages/61823/ipm-action-plan-for-bed-bugs/print/#.VK2V3ivF-6M))

  - Sample Notice of Pesticide Application

- **Check Out This Resource – The IPM Institute of North America, Inc.**
  [www.ipminstitute.org](http://www.ipminstitute.org) The IPM Institute website includes general IPM information and useful links to many credentialed websites.

After you have completed the **Action Items in this section**, go to Section 5, **Documentation and Self-Assessment.**
Sample Notification Letter for Parents or Guardians
(To be sent to all parents or guardians of students enrolled in the early care and education program at the beginning of each school year.)

The ________________ (name of early care and education program) uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents, and weeds. Using this approach to pest management protects every child and staff member from pesticide exposure. Our IPM approach focuses on prevention, early identification and using the least toxic pesticide as a last resort to manage pests.

Occasionally, it may be necessary to use pesticides registered by the Environmental Protection Agency to manage a pest problem. A pesticide will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. When a pesticide application is necessary, the program will try to use the least toxic product that is effective. Applications will be made only when unauthorized persons do not have access to the area(s) being treated. Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two days following the application.

Parents or guardians of children enrolled may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the program. To receive notification, contact ________________ (IPM Coordinator) to be placed on the registry/list. Please provide your e-mail address if you would like to be notified electronically.

If a pesticide application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be provided by telephone to any parent or guardian who has requested such notification in writing. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and antimicrobial products; self-contained baits placed in areas not accessible to students; gel-type baits placed in cracks, crevices, or voids; and swimming pool maintenance chemicals.

Each year ________________ (name of early care and education program) will prepare a new notification registry/list.

If you have any questions, please contact ________________, IPM coordinator.

Sincerely,
Sample Pest Control Information Sheet

for ______________________

(ENTER NAME OF EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAM)

A pest inspection and pesticide application have been scheduled for ____________ (INSERT DATE OF APPLICATION HERE)

This program uses an Integrated Pest Management program, applying appropriate pesticides only when needed. Our applicators will select the most appropriate pesticide(s) from the following list of pesticides to control pests identified during their inspections. Not every pesticide listed maybe used.

List of Pesticides that May Be Used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRAND NAME</th>
<th>EPA REGISTRATION NUMBER</th>
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</table>

(ENTER BRAND NAME and EPA REGISTRATION NUMBERS FOR ANY PESTICIDE THAT MAY BE USED HERE)

Safety Data Sheets for all pesticides which may be used are attached.

For Additional Information, Contact:

(ENTER IPM COORDINATOR’S NAME)

(ENTER IPM COORDINATOR’S EMAIL ADDRESS)

(ENTER IPM COORDINATOR’S PHONE NUMBER)
Sample Notice of Pesticide Application

A Pesticide Application is planned for the location(s) listed on this sign for:

__________________________________________

Date

Do Not Enter Treated Areas from

__________________________________________  ________________________________________

Date and Time  Date and Time

Location(s)

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

For more information contact:

(Name)

________________________________________________________________________

(Address)

________________________________________________________________________

(Phone)

________________________________________________________________________

Date Posted / by

________________________________________________________________________

Date Removed / by

________________________________________________________________________

Post this sign at least 72 hours prior to any non-emergency pesticide application and keep it in place for at least 48 hours following the application. For emergency pesticide applications, post this sign at the time of the application and keep it in place for at least 48 hours from the conclusion of the application. To be removed by authorized personnel only.
Section 5

Documentation & Self-Assessment

Well done! You are now ready to complete the online Survey Monkey self-assessment and document your plans related to IPM. Use the Assessment and Implementation Questions to think about your answers before entering them in Survey Monkey. Instructions to access Survey Monkey are on the first page of this document. Or, you may choose to mail, fax or email the Assessment and Implementation Questions to ECELS.

Technical Assistance

As you implement the self-assessment and Integrated Pest Management Policy or Plan you may find that you need technical assistance. Contact ECELS for help:
Phone: 484-444-3003 or 800-243-2357 (toll-free in PA); Fax: 484-446-3255; email: ecels@paaap.org