

Introducing a Balanced Approach to IPM in Schools

Ecolab Balanced™ Program

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Ensuring a safe learning environment is a top priority.

Children spend 6-7 hours a day, 5 days a week, 180 days a year, in school.

Younger children often spend 9 hours a day, 5 days a week, 250 days a year, in child care facilities.



→ Asthma is the most common chronic illness in children

▣ 4.8 million kids - U.S.

▣ 1 in 8 school aged - Arizona

▣ Most exacerbations are due to environmental triggers

† There are established links between pest allergens and certain pesticide classes.




Healthier Environment ->
Healthier Kids ->
Higher Academic Achievement



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→ IPM – Encompasses 3 important processes


- 1. Inspection
- 2. Communication
- 3. Educating the customer



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→ Inspection

- The majority of our time on campus is wrapped up in the inspection process
- Service personnel should be equipped with:
 - Flashlight
 - Screwdriver
 - Putty knife
 - Insect/rodent proofing products
- Inspections utilizing the outside/in approach



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Inspection

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- A firm understanding of pest pressure, whether on-going or seasonal
- Understanding your customer is critical
 - Support staff
 - Teachers
 - Students
- Understanding your environment
 - Are classrooms cluttered
 - Readily available food source
 - Classroom pests, etc.
 - Exterior - landscape



Communication

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- Service personnel must possess good communication skills
 - Reach out for staff and teachers
 - Multiple "sets of eyes" are better than our two
 - Communicate to staff and teachers
 - Reasons to avoid food and water sources
 - Keep areas organized and clutter free
 - Address sanitation issues
 - Identify structural issues

Education

- The key to a successful program hinges on education
 - Educate staff and teachers about IPM
 - Explain pest habits and biology
 - "What and why" - improves cooperation
 - Partnership is critical for a pest free environment
 - Eliminating conducive environments eliminates pests and the need for pesticides

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Pesticides
Education
Communication
Inspection

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