

Florida School IPM News

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Online training available: https://eces.ifas.ufl.edu/

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This Friday! Florida School IPM Working Group Summer Meeting- RSVP Now!

Mark your calendar for Friday July 16, 2010 (10:00 – 2:30) and email your RSVP to foi@ufl.edu.

Please let us know by Wednesday if you are planning on attending. We need to order lunch and we need an accurate number for the order.

Your attendance and participation is always welcome.

Location: UF-IFAS Mid-Florida REC, 2725 S Binion Road, Apopka.

If you are new to the meeting we have attendance from industry, school districts, county extension, Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, pest management associations, pesticide manufacturers, and the University of Florida. We are expecting a very productive and informative meeting. It will be a great time to get the CEUs you need!

Manatee County School IPM Success



Who is working on it: A partnership with the Manatee County School Board, the Department of Health, FDACS, Industry and UF/IFAS Extension.

What are the successes so far: Our success has been from building a team that understands IPM. Under the direction of Todd Henson, Dan Lisenko has spearheaded and oversees School IPM in every school in the district. He has IPM at work in 60 facilities, on over 200 acres of athletic fields and on over 2000 acres of grounds. Their strong IPM program is a success because they receive lots of cooperation from school administrators and staff.

We have three technicians for structural pest control (Rick Lonzo, Greg Duval, and Dwayne Riedel) and one turf technician (Jessie Ferguson). We also get help from Wayne Dossey who keeps track of the field work and helps with scouting to report landscape pest problems. Our success is being able to go home at night knowing we have improved the safety of the children in our schools from the dangers of pests and pesticides. In these budget times we are proud to report we have reduced pesticide use by 80% and we are saving 50-60% in product costs. Keep in mind it costs more to purchase more selective pesticides.

What resources are you using the most: We think education is the

key to a successful SIPM program. We grab information from everywhere but material from the University of Florida has been the most helpful. Being able to contact specialists at UF for quick identification of insects and getting IPM material from UF to educate teachers and other people in our school system is a resource we use often.

Looking to the future: Now we are trying to reduce landscape chemical use. We are always looking for more natural products and maintaining healthy sports turf with good cultural practices. We want to get laptops for all of our technicians so they can ID pests in the field.

For more information about the Manatee School District IPM program, contact Dan Lisenko, Grounds and Maintenance Manager 941-708-8800 x 1110.

Post Your School IPM News!

We hope you will submit news items and would be happy to help you write a story if you have an idea but don't have the time to write up the information. This newsletter will be published as content arrives please keep the information flowing! Please send news items to Jennifer Gillett-Kaufman.