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Florida School IPM Focus on History

Some times to figure out where you are going you need to look back and see where you are coming from. So in this issue we are going to look at a historical perspective of School IPM and focus on the involvement and continued support we receive from the EPA for school IPM programs, in Florida and around the country.

Have a look at some of the material we have available on **our website** this website was developed with funding from the EPA to support school IPM needs nationwide! Don't forget you can customize our material to fit your needs.

For more information about the Florida School IPM program and how to tailor our material to fit your needs please contact Faith at: foi@ufl.edu or Jennifer at: gillett@ufl.edu. We are both happy to help you make this school year a success. Don't forget our goal is to have every school using IPM to protect everyone in the school from the risks posed by pests and pesticides.

Sherry Glick on School IPM



Sherry Glick is the National IPM and Schools Coordinator for the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** (US EPA). She has been employed with the US EPA for 29 years. In the late 1990's, Sherry stepped forward at the US EPA to take on the challenge of school IPM. She writes below about the past few years and how the US EPA School IPM Program has grown exponentially.

Sherry Glick on School IPM: My work involves building collaborative partnerships between the US EPA and organizations working on the national implementation of school IPM. Organizations like the University of Florida (UF) are critical to EPA in realizing the national implementation of school IPM. UF manages our school IPM website for information on pests, suggestions on how to get an IPM program implemented in your school, and the extremely popular "**School Bugs**" list serve, which communicates school IPM issues to thousands! I also work with the EPA Regional School Contacts to build partnerships between the states, EPA Regions and Headquarters to further connect the dots in building the coalition for school IPM. Besides my school IPM work, I represent EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) on the EPA's Schools Work Group, which is addressing

issues such as school siting and is working on a guidance document for schools.

I also represent school IPM when working with the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention on developing a School Health Policies and Programs Study (SHPPS). This study expects to conduct a survey during the upcoming months. School IPM is a critical part of this survey, which will gauge how our country is adopting IPM principles in our Nation's schools. Last but not least, I work with my colleagues in OPP's Environmental Stewardship Branch to promote the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program, which is part of the PestWise program. To learn more about our program and how you can get involved, check out our website at www.epa.gov/pestwise and the latest issue of our newsletter, **PESPWire**.

Where is school IPM going? Schools are striving to create the best learning environments for our children. Along with a safe school and excellent teachers and staff, parents and school children should not settle for less when it comes to pest management in their schools. There are many activities happening outside of EPA that serve to move school IPM forward for our country. Not only is their progress ongoing in Florida under the direction of Dr. Faith Oi, but on a larger scale including the creation of the National School IPM Working Group, which is working with representatives from federal agencies, state and local governments, universities, non-government organizations, and others to build coalitions in many states to implement school IPM programs. I represent EPA on this work group, and my EPA Regional colleagues also participate on the North Central, Northeast, Southern and Western School IPM Working Groups. With school IPM activity continually growing, EPA recently announced a new priority focusing on IPM, especially within our school environments.

In the upcoming months, more activities and EPA's goal for school IPM will be shared. Stay tuned! You're an important part of our success, and we need you to move along with us as we all work together to implement school IPM nationally!

If you would like to discuss the US EPAs support of school IPM programs please contact Sherry at: Glick.Sherry@epamail.epa.gov.

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**.