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Past Issues

Online Training Available:

<https://eces.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Pest Management in and Around Structures:

<http://www.eXtension.org/>

Contact Us:

<http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/>

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School IPM Focus- Moisture

Most of Florida has been experiencing drought conditions for the last 12 months. We have gotten a bit of relief in the last few weeks; some folks are even getting a bit of flooding. Regardless of how much rain you have gotten it is always a good practice after extended periods of drought to thoroughly inspect your buildings for leaks and water intrusion. Many pest problems can be mitigated if leaks and water intrusion are caught early. We will cover some pest problems that are linked to excess moisture in this issue.

As always for more information on pests or on developing an IPM program please visit our [website](#).

Know The Facts: The problem with moisture



I took this picture at a school in Alachua County. It is a good example of a moisture problem that should have been fixed sooner.

We have discussed wood destroying organisms and indoor air quality in a [previous issue](#). Review this issue as a refresher on how moisture can encourage fungal growth and development.

Had this leak been fixed when it was first starting the cost of repair would have been minimal.

Emphasis on Facts

Fact: Moisture can lead to or make pest problems worse! We know that in addition to mold that can lead to reduced air quality and wood rot that can be detrimental to the structural health of your building other pests rely on moisture for their survival.

Reducing access to moisture will reduce your chances of building up pest populations. Rodents, roaches and ants all need moisture to survive. Minimizing access to moisture inside can reduce the breeding potential in all of these animals.

Fact: We all want reliable research based information. EDIS is the Electronic Data Information Source of UF/IFAS Extension, a collection of

information on topics relevant to you. We suggest you read and review some of these UF/IFAS EDIS Publications on **Moisture, Mold and Mildew**.

Last Call for this Training Opportunity

Pest Management University will hold a special training session on School IPM.

Date: June 28, 2012, Thursday

Time: 8:30 - 5:00 pm

Place: Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd., Apopka, FL 32703

Cost: \$150

This class is geared toward the special challenges of working in a school environment, including special needs classrooms, schools as multi-use facilities and tight budgets! Topics will include knowing the components of an IPM program and communicating information to your clients, how to identify pest vulnerable and pesticide sensitive areas, choosing the right products for the pest problem, record keeping, model contracts and developing an IPM plan. Who should attend? Anyone doing pest control in schools, IPM coordinators, administrators and purchasing agents.

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**.

Visit our website for back issues of **Florida School IPM News**. You can scan the QR code on the right with your smart phone or tablet to get there faster. You will need a QR code reader!