

Aug 21, 2012

Florida School IPM News

Volume 3, Number 9

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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/>

Faith Oi

foi@ufl.edu

Jennifer Gillett-Kaufman

[gillett@ufl.edu](mailto:gillettk@ufl.edu)

Twitter [@JGillettKaufman](https://twitter.com/JGillettKaufman)

Entomology & Nematology

Twitter [@UFEntomology](https://twitter.com/UFEntomology)

Facebook [UFEntomology](https://facebook.com/UFEntomology)

School IPM Focus

Welcome back to school! We hope that only pleasant surprises awaited you during the opening weeks of school, but sometimes bad things happen over the summer that can lead to circumstances that seem overwhelming. In order to keep our school environment safe and healthy, it may seem like you are doing the job of 2 or 3 people. This month our focus is on tools to help with your many different duties.

1. Maintain your credentials; earn CEUs.

Attend the **Florida School Plan Management Association annual conference** and look for our School IPM all-day training on Sept 4 titled "Preventing Itches, Sneezing and Wheezing: Pest Management Counts". Asthma is on the rise and can be one of the leading reasons for student absenteeism, impacting learning, testing and productivity. Learn how pests in the school environment contribute to allergies and asthma and how to control these pests. Join our "Fix the Building Envelope" campaign.

2. Doing the job of 2 or 3 people and need help?

The Florida School IPM Industry Task Force has developed Best Management Practices tailored for Florida pest conditions. They are intended to help you design an integrated pest management program for your schools. The **draft is available for comment** until Sept 15, 2012, 5:00 PM.

EPA Region 8 has published an excellent guide to "**Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments**" which includes organizational checklists to help keep track of your different responsibilities.

3. Stay in the loop. Want to stay connected to others in the school IPM community? Subscribe to School-Bugs.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this mailing list, please e-mail listserv@lists.ufl.edu. To **subscribe** - leave the subject line blank and in the text of the message type the following: subscribe Schoolbugs-L yourname (*Please substitute your name for "yourname"*) View the **complete instructions**.

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

Know the Facts: Asthma

- Asthma is a common chronic disease among children in the US
- In 2006, 9.9 million children under 18 years of age were reported to have ever been diagnosed with asthma; 6.8 million children had an asthmatic episode in the last 12 months
- The hospitalization rate for asthma remained at 27 per 10,000 children from 2002-2004
- Asthma is the third ranking cause of non-injury related hospitalization among children less than 15 years of age

Disparities of Asthma

- Asthma disproportionately affects children from lower-income families and children from various racial and ethnic groups
- African-American children have a 500% higher mortality rate from asthma as compared with Caucasian children
- In 2005, 13% of African-American children were reported to have asthma as compared with 9% of Hispanic children and 8% of non-Hispanic white children

Economic Impact of Asthma

- In 2002, children 5-17 years old missed 14.7 million school days due to asthma

This summary was taken from the EPA Office of Children's Health. View the [complete document with references](#).

Last Call for this Training Opportunity

Don't miss out on the [last Foundations of Termite Management for 2012!](#)

Date: Sept. 5-7, 2012; W-F

Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC

Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

Cost: \$350

Registration will close on Aug 31, 2012; Friday. (Note:

Registration deadlines are earlier than most CEU classes because each class is tailored for the folks enrolled, so we require time to print the material that will be distributed for each class and gather supplies for the hands-on training.)

[Registration Form](#)

Want to practice doing a DACS vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS before a crisis occurs? Hear about the top 10 reasons technicians get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney. How about learning over 50 building construction elements, hands-on, in 2-days instead of 2 years? We discuss how termites exploit the building construction elements and how to treat them. Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior as well as product label navigation

Don't forget to sign up for our Master's class, Sept 26-28. We only hold

this class once a year. If you are interested in the State GHP Certified Operator Examination, Joe Parker (DACS) will hold a special review after the Master's class with the exam on Saturday at Apopka MREC.

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!