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## Past Issues

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### Online Training Available:

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

### Pest Management in and Around Structures:

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

## School IPM Focus - Summer Building Preparation

By: Mike Bentley



With summer break in full swing, many schools are experiencing reduced building traffic. As discussed in last month's [newsletter](#), undisturbed buildings can provide a perfect location where pest issues can develop unnoticed. A great way to combat pest issues during summer break is to conduct regular building inspections. Last month we addressed interior building issues. This month we turn our attention to exterior inspections, highlighting structural and rooftop inspection tips.

## Fix the Building Envelope - Door Sweeps

In January, we challenged schools to **make a new year's resolution to fix door sweeps** on the exterior doors only as an effort toward sustainable IPM in schools. Fixing door sweeps and ensuring that windows and doors close properly (i.e., no gaps) will not only exclude pests, but improve energy efficiency and maybe improve indoor air quality by preventing moisture from accumulating. (Excess moisture can lead to mold.)

With the 2014-2015 school year approaching, it is a good time to make the commitment to fixing door sweeps as a more sustainable method and cost-effective method of pest prevention. If you have a door-sweep success story you want to share, please let us know ([foi@ufl.edu](mailto:foi@ufl.edu)) so we can highlight your commitment!

## Exterior Building Inspection



Many pest or moisture issues begin on the exterior of a structure, and can become an interior problem if left unchecked. These issues can often be prevented or resolved by completing regular exterior inspections. Regular exterior inspections and maintenance are important parts of keeping a structure pest free, and ensuring the building envelope remains intact. Here are some helpful tips to performing your exterior building inspection:

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### *Building Exterior*

- All doors and windows should seal properly.
- Window screens (if used) are intact and in good condition.
- Ensure trash containers close properly, are located away from building entryways, lined with a bag thick enough to withstand puncture, emptied and washed regularly to remove food and liquids that can be used by pests for survival.
- Keep landscaping trimmed away from structures to reduce pest entry and to allow adequate visibility during inspections between plants and buildings (Fig. 1).
- Inspect roofline, exterior entry points, and plumbing/electrical penetrations for signs of pest activity.



Fig 1. Palm trees contacting a structure.

### *Rooftop Inspection*

- Ensure air intakes are free from obstructions, debris, or clogs.
- Ensure exhaust fans, vents, and air intakes are sealed at their base to prevent moisture intrusion, and openings are securely screened to prevent pest entry.
- Summertime in Florida means frequent afternoon showers. Be sure to inspect for exterior signs of moisture damage, especially along roof edges and around vents, fans, or air intakes. Interior signs of moisture intrusion include discolored ceiling tiles or condensation forming on windows and doors.

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## **We Need Your Ticks!**

If you have more than 5 raisin-size, blood-fed female brown dog ticks, (*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*) we want them!

If you have ticks for us, please contact Dr. Phillip E. Kaufman

tel. (352) 273-3975  
[pkauflman@ufl.edu](mailto:pkauflman@ufl.edu)

Or Lois Wood ([lawood@ufl.edu](mailto:lawood@ufl.edu), 352-273-3981) for more information.



Fig. 1. Engorged female brown dog tick, about the size of a raisin

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## “Like” us on Facebook, “follow” us on Twitter, and “invite” us on LinkedIn

Want to hear short updates from us in between newsletters? “Like” us on Facebook and “follow” us on Twitter!



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## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

If you plan on taking the [State Certified Operator examination](#) through PMU, please submit your applications by:

Sept 1 for the Oct 17 PMU [State Exam](#) for Termite and WDO

(Write “**PMU NOV WDO**” on the top line of the state application)

Sept 1 for the Nov 7 PMU [State Exam](#) for GHP

(Write “**PMU OCT GHP**” on the top line of the state application)

**Must have taken both Foundations and Masters through PMU to qualify for these PMU state exam seatings.**

### July Offerings

#### Termite Basics 100

**Date:** July 30, 2014

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$175

**Registration deadline:** July 23, 2014; 8 slots remaining

Offered only once a year. This one-day class is a good fit for school

personnel who need to understand the basics of recognizing termite activity, where to look for them and what to do about them. Will help fulfill 40 hour training requirement for new ID card holders.

- Learn about the general Florida Statute 482 requirements for technicians and sales staff.
- Be introduced to basic termite biology and behavior in the context of structural infestations.
- Learn to determine different slab types in the field and the common ways termites enter structures
- Practice basic methods for treatment

[Register here](#)

### **General Household Pests Basics 100**

**Date:** July 31, 2014

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (TH)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$175

**Registration deadline:** July 23, 2014; 10 slots remaining

Offered only once a year. This one-day class a good fit for school personnel who need to understand the basics of common pests such as cockroaches, ants and bed bugs. Will help fulfill 40 hour training requirement for new ID card holders.

- Learn about the general Florida Statute 482 requirements for technicians and sales.
- Learn the basics concepts Integrated Pest Management.
- Learn how to monitor and make decisions about treatment.

[Register here](#)

### **September Offerings**

#### **Foundations of Termite Management**

**Date:** September 17-19, 2014; Wed-Fri

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

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

Learn how termites exploit over 50 building construction elements and how to treat them in a hands-on environment in 2-days instead of 2 years.

- 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.
- Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior

as well as product label navigation.

[Register here](#)

### **Foundations of Turf Management**

**Date:** September 24-26, 2014; Wed-Fri

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

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

Learn about common turf varieties, turf diseases, IPM of turf pests, methods of sampling, equipment calibration, turf maintenance requirements and more!

[Register here](#)

### **October Offerings**

#### **Foundations of General Household Pest Management**

**Date:** October 1-3, 2014; Wed-Fri

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

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

Pest control matters. Cockroach allergen mitigation can be achieved with IPM.

- Study domestic and peridomestic cockroach species and how to control them as well as rodent, small fly, filth fly, fire ant and nuisance ant management.
- Review the labels of commonly used GHP products, practice pest inspections at PMU's house and develop treatment strategies focused on IPM.
- Do a vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS.

[Register here](#)

#### **Foundations of Ornamental Plant Pest Management 101**

**Date:** October 8-10, 2014; Wed-Fri

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

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

Learn how to properly ID common southern trees and shrubs, monitor and diagnose pest and maintenance problems, ID beneficials, calibrate and operate different pesticide application equipment, and impress your instructors with your landscape IPM expertise.

[Register here](#)

### **Master of Termite Management**

**Date:** October 15-17, 2014; Wed-Fri

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

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

This fast-paced class is only offered once a year. **Must have completed Foundations in order to advance.**

- Review termite identification, biology and control and learn about wood-destroying beetles and wood-decaying fungi.
- Learn how to do a proper borate application
- Do baits work?
- Use foam and application techniques to optimize the distribution of liquid termiticides in soil with the Bayer University toys
- Hear about the top 10 reasons that certified operators get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney.
- Do an inspection for WDOs at PMU's house designed to challenge even experienced inspectors.
- Practice a licensee inspection with a DACS inspector and learn about the duties of a certified operator.

[Register here](#)

### **ADDITIONAL COURSES**

#### **PMU Courses**

##### **WDO category**

Dec 3-5, 2014, [Termite Expert](#), **must** have taken Foundations and Masters

##### **GHP Category**

Nov 5-7, 2014, [GHP Masters](#), **must** have taken Foundations

##### **L&O Category**

Please contact Dr. Eileen Buss (eabuss@ufl.edu, (352) 273-3976) directly with questions concerning these courses.

Click on links for course descriptions or go to <http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses> for more information

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**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. We like to share news and video when it happens using our social media outlets- **Twitter, Facebook** and **YouTube**. When you send news we will post it on one or more of these sites and again in the monthly newsletter. Feel free to send news or announcements as soon as they happen and we will post them. We hope this will get you more visibility. Please send news items to **Michael Bentley**.

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!