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Past Issues

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

Pest Management in and Around Structures:

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

School IPM Focus - Green Ribbon School Districts

What a stellar start to the school year for Florida! Congratulations Palm Beach and Broward County School Districts for being selected as Green Ribbon School Districts! In 2013, when Palm Beach was selected, only 14 school districts were recognized with this prestigious award; in 2014, Broward was recognized and only 9 school districts in the nation were recognized. There are >14,000 school districts in the U.S.

Florida was selected as one leg of the U.S. Dept. of Education's 2014 Green Strides Best Practices Tour. We visited several amazing schools in Palm Beach and Broward County School Districts. The tour was the culmination a comprehensive process to assess school and school district programs for numerous measures of sustainability, including pest management practices. U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) recognizes schools that excel in:

1. Reducing environmental impact and costs;
2. Improving the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff; and
3. Providing environmental education, which teaches many disciplines, and is especially good at effectively incorporating STEM, civic skills, and green career pathways.

(<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>)

The schools we visited were a mix of brand new and old facilities; elementary, middle and high schools; and mixed demographics. The one thing that they had in common is that they "walked the walk" of sustainable living. It was refreshing to see how schools could be so well maintained, and how cleverly every available space could be used in teaching. **What does this have to do with pest control?** Because schools are changing the way that they use space, pest distributions will also change. In the next newsletter issue, we'll discuss the changes we anticipate in pest control due to sustainable development.

We support the Green Ribbons program because we believe that efforts toward sustainability, listed above will also lead to sustainable IPM programs.



Fig. 1. "No child left inside..." Philosophy of this school's approach to learning.

What is Sustainability?

In "Our Common Future," the United Nations began its definition of sustainable development as *...development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*"

The combination of sustainability and children's health is a "no brainer." In terms of pest control, I did not see evidence of cockroaches or rodents that could be asthma triggers, even in older schools with an economically disadvantaged population. Why? Here is my theory. These school populations are continually reminded of living sustainably and educated in how to accomplish it.

Nominate Your School and District for a Green Ribbons Award

If your school or school district has a strong sustainability program, please consider submitting an application to the Florida Department of Education. The application process will open on October 1, 2014. For more information, please see:

<http://www.floridagreenschoolnetwork.org/green-school-award/green-ribbon-schools-program/>

Green Ribbon Schools Timeline:

- School Application submissions to Florida Department of Education due by **December 05, 2014**
- Florida Department of Education nominee submissions due by **February 01, 2015**
- U.S Department of Education selection of nominees will be on **April 22, 2015**
- Award ceremony will be held **July, 2015** in Washington, DC

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



Upcoming Training Opportunities:

September Offerings

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 (3 slots left!)

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 (Only 4 seats left!)

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](#)

November Offering

Foundations of General Household Pest Management

Date: November 4-6, 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.** State Exam offered on the afternoon of Nov 7 for those who have approved applications.

- Learn about biting and stinging insects, stored product pests,

and occasional invaders as well as how to recognize delusory parasitosis.

- Play with the tools of the trade, vacuums, steamers, foamers and practice spray patterns.
- Prepare for an introduction to vertebrate pests that carry disease causing organisms.
- Learn about the legal liabilities of GHP work.
- Practice affidavit writing and working with DACS on licensee inspections.

[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.

Dec 10-12, 2014, [Ornamental and Turfgrass Masters](#)

Click on links for course descriptions or go to http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses_for_more_information

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!