

## In This Issue

- School IPM Focus – Winter Wrap-Up
- Simplify the Indoor Environment
- Fix the Building Envelope
- We Need Ticks!
- “Like” us!
- Upcoming Training Opportunities
- Post Your School IPM News!

## Past Issues

### Contact Us:

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

### Faith Oi

foi@ufl.edu

Twitter @PMU\_News

[Facebook PMUNews](#)

### Michael Bentley

volcum1@ufl.edu

Entomology & Nematology

Twitter [@UFEntomology](#)

[Facebook UFEntomology](#)

### Online Training Available:

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

### Pest Management in and Around Structures:

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

## School IPM Focus - Getting Ready for Spring Cleaning!

By: Mike Bentley

Believe it or not, January is already here. That means it's time to run through our clutter-control checklist! This month's newsletter provides tips on simplifying your indoor environment in the classroom and at home.

## Simplify the Indoor Environment

Simplifying the indoor environment is achieved by removing unnecessary or unused items indoors. Removing items that no longer serve a purpose can eliminate pest harborage as well as make inspections and cleaning more efficient. Here are a few tips to simplifying your indoor environment.



- Keep items stored on shelves and off of the floor to.
- Limit the use of cardboard boxes for storage as cardboard provides ideal harborage for many pests. Instead, use plastic sealable containers to store loose items.
- Store any remaining perishable items in sealable containers, especially macaroni, cereals, or other food items used as crafts. This prevents pests from using these items as an attractive food source over break.
- Remove trash and any leftover food items that may have been left from parties to eliminate pest conducive conditions.
- Clear any debris such as unused boxes, papers, or supplies so that pest harborage is eliminated.

## Fix the Building Envelope - Door Sweeps



At the beginning of this year we asked you to **make a resolution to fix door sweeps** on the outer building doors 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.

It is a good time to make the commitment to fixing door sweeps as a

more sustainable 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!

---

## “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!



---

## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

If you plan on taking the [State Certified Operator Examination](#) through PMU, you must take both the Foundations and Masters courses, and have your [application](#) approved through the state.

**Write “PMU” across the top of your application to FDACS.**

### JANUARY OFFERINGS

#### Foundations of Termite Management

**Date:** January 21-23, 2015; Wed-Fri (**COURSE FULL, CLOSED, please see our February offering, below**)

**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

### FEBRUARY OFFERINGS

#### Foundations of General Household Pest Management

**Date:** February 11-13, 2015; Wed-Fri (**Half full, a must have for school personnel! Scholarships may be available for qualifying school districts. Email Faith for information: [foi@ufl.edu](mailto:foi@ufl.edu)**)

**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**

**Date:** February 18-20, 2015

**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. Contact Dr. Eileen Buss directly for information: [eabuss@ufl.edu](mailto:eabuss@ufl.edu)

[Register here](#)

### **Foundations of Termite Management**

**Date:** February 25-27, 2015; 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. *(You might also be interested in a course that specializes in [WDO inspections, March 12-13, 2015](#). Offered only once a year. Must have for your WDO inspector.)*

- Practice doing a DACS vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS before a crisis occurs.
- Hear about the top 5 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](#)

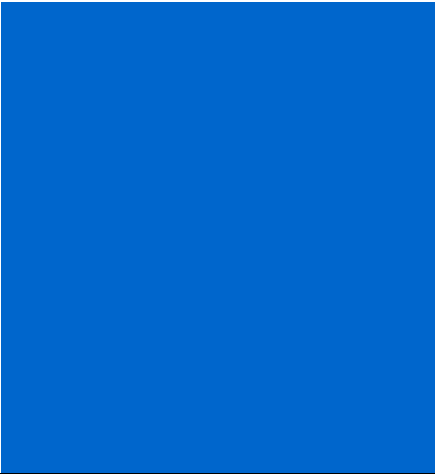
Click on links for course descriptions or go to <http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses> for more information



---

## 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!