



# 2025-2026 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

School Recordkeeping Calendar

[www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)

A yellow sticky note is placed on a wooden desk. It has the words 'Choose' and 'IPM' handwritten in black ink, stacked vertically. The background of the entire image is a wooden desk with various school supplies: a teal pencil case, a purple paperclip, a yellow stapler, a red heart-shaped sharpener, a red apple, a keyboard, and several colored pencils and highlighters.



# Integrated Pest Management

## School Recordkeeping Calendar 2025–2026

### About this calendar

This calendar can help you keep track of your pest management activities. It is designed as a planning tool for managing pests of school buildings and grounds. This calendar is intended to serve as a reminder of pest management procedures by month, to help schoolsites implement safer, more sustainable pest management practices and to provide a place to monitor pest activity and record pesticide use.

The Healthy Schools Act (HSA) requires each school district to report pesticide applications by school employees to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) annually. Information that must be reported includes the product name, the time of the application, location, and the amount of the product used. Do not report pesticides applied by pest management professionals. Reports for 2025 pesticide use are due by January 30, 2026.



### Why use integrated pest management?

Integrated pest management is the preferred method for managing pests at schoolsites to reduce children's exposure to pesticides. Integrated pest management focuses on the long-term prevention of pests through the use of a combination of techniques, such as identifying and monitoring pests, understanding pest biology, excluding pests from structures, using non-chemical methods, or maintaining records. Pesticides that pose the least harm to people and the environment are only used if other methods do not achieve adequate control.

### HSA and IPM Training

DPR offers free online HSA and IPM training. For courses that meet the HSA training requirement: [www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)

### For information on managing pests

Visit the DPR website at: [www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)

Visit the University of California Statewide IPM Program website at: [www.ipm.ucanr.edu](http://www.ipm.ucanr.edu)







# AUGUST 2025

## TIP: MONITORING FOR BENEFICIAL INSECTS

Keep an eye out for beneficial insects, like lacewings, and allow them to feed on various pests and mites.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Notes .....

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# SEPTEMBER 2025

## TIP: MANAGING RODENTS

Combine practices such as sanitation, exclusion, and snap traps to manage rodent infestations.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Notes .....

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# OCTOBER 2025

## TIP: MANAGING GROUND SQUIRRELS

Control vegetation on school grounds including athletic field edges, borders, banks, and rights-of-way to enhance monitoring for burrowing activity.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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# NOVEMBER 2025

## TIP: MANAGING ANTS

Use sanitation and baiting, not perimeter sprays, as effective ways for keeping ant populations from getting out of hand.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Notes .....

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# DECEMBER 2025

## TIP: IDENTIFYING WEEDS

Consult resources such as UC IPM's Pest Notes Library to identify various weeds and to learn about effective management practices.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Notes .....

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# JANUARY 2026

## TIP: MANAGING POCKET GOPHERS

Trap and control populations in winter and early spring, before breeding, when populations are lower.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					PUR reports are due	

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# FEBRUARY 2026

## TIP: KEEPING RAPTORS SAFE

Find out if your district or neighbors use rodenticides before placing owl boxes or hawk perches. Raptors that eat poisoned rodents may get sick or die.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Notes .....

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# MARCH 2026

## TIP: MANAGING TURF WEEDS

Cut grass when it's dry, keep the blades sharp, and set the mowing height to remove 1/3 of the grass height.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Notes .....

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# APRIL 2026

## TIP: MANAGING WASPS

Trap wasps in early spring to avoid a larger problem later in summer and fall.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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# MAY 2026

## TIP: MANAGING ALLERGENS

Use vacuum cleaners that have a HEPA (high efficiency particulate absorber) filter to clean up any insect body parts and rodent droppings that may cause allergies.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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# JUNE 2026

## TIP: MANAGING WEEDS WITH MULCH

Use mulch to suppress annual weeds by limiting light required for growth. Mulch is any material placed on the soil to cover and protect it.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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# JULY 2026

## TIP: MANAGING COCKROACHES

Prevent cockroaches from becoming pests in buildings by using sanitation and exclusion.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

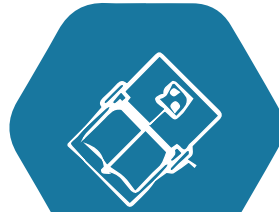
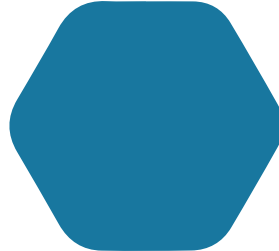
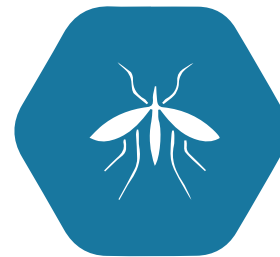
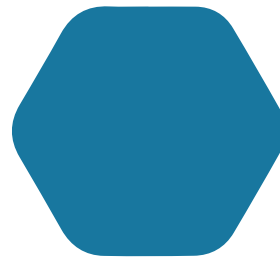
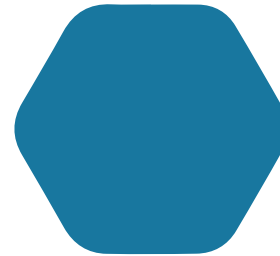
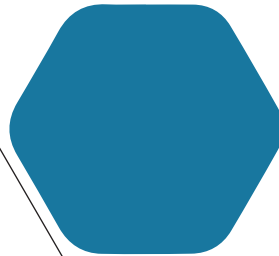
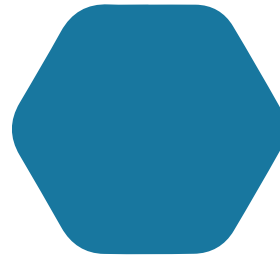
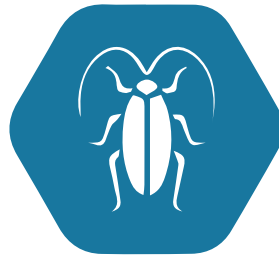
Notes .....

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# PEST MONITORING & PESTICIDE RECORDKEEPING FORMS



# PEST MONITORING FORM

[illegible]

# PESTICIDE RECORDKEEPING FORM

[illegible]



# PEST IDENTIFICATION CHARTS



# COCKROACH

## Identification Chart

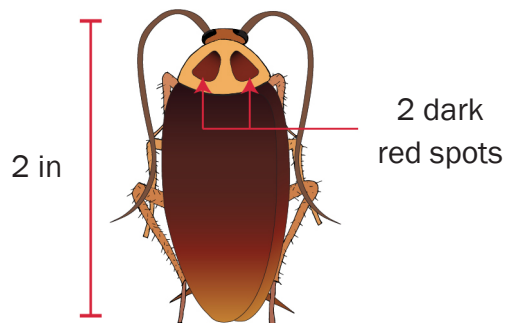
### Adult

### Nymph

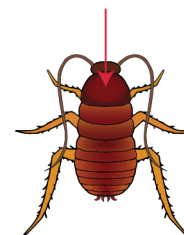
### Egg Case

#### American Cockroach

Location: Humid environments  
Sexual maturity: ~15 months  
Life Span: 2–3 years  
Eggs: 16 eggs  
Egg case size: 3/8 inch long



Reddish-brown exterior

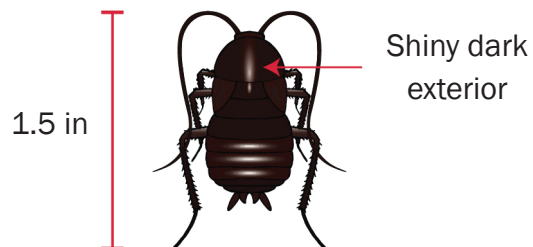


Symmetrical



#### Oriental Cockroach

Location: Indoor/Outdoor  
Sexual maturity: ~12 months  
Life Span: 1–2 years  
Eggs: 16 eggs  
Egg case size: 3/8 inch



Light brown exterior, darkens with each molt

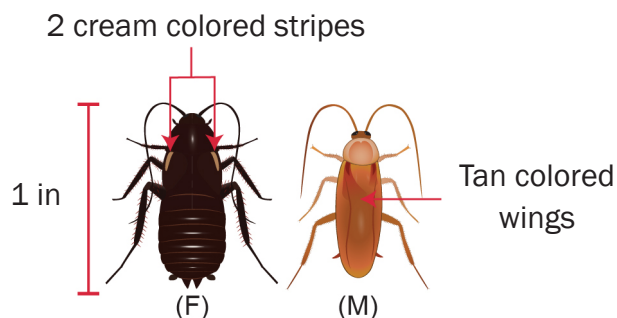


Asymmetrical



#### Turkestan Cockroach

Location: Indoor/Outdoor  
Sexual maturity: ~7 months  
Life Span: 13 months  
Eggs: 16 eggs  
Egg case size: 3/8 inch



Red to black exterior

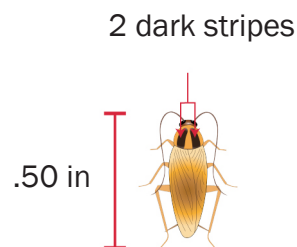


Asymmetrical



#### German Cockroach

Location: Indoor  
Sexual maturity: ~2 months  
Life Span: 6 months  
Eggs: 40 eggs  
Egg case size: 1/4 inch



Yellow stripe in center





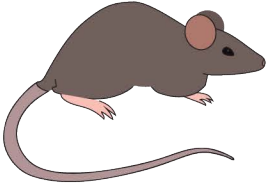

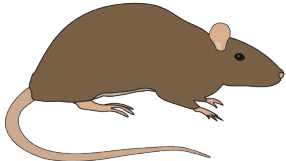



Visible subsegments



# COMMENSAL RODENTS

## Identification Chart

		Characteristics	Droppings
Norway Rat		<p>Tail: Shorter than head and body</p> <p>Ears: Small</p> <p>Eyes: Small</p> <p>Nose: Blunt</p> <p>Weight: 7~8 oz.</p>	 <p>Shape: Blunt</p> <p>Avg. length: 3/4"</p>
Roof Rat		<p>Tail: Longer than head and body</p> <p>Ears: Large</p> <p>Eyes: Large</p> <p>Nose: Pointed</p> <p>Weight: 5~10 oz.</p>	 <p>Shape: Pointed</p> <p>Avg. length: 1/2"</p>
House Mouse		<p>Body Shape: Round</p> <p>Head size: Small</p> <p>Feet: Small</p> <p>Snout: Pointed</p> <p>Weight: .5 oz.</p>	 <p>Shape: Pointed</p> <p>Avg. length: 1/4"</p>
Young Rat		<p>Body Shape: Flattened</p> <p>Head size: Large</p> <p>Feet: Large relative to body size</p> <p>Snout: Blunt</p> <p>Weight: greater than .5 oz.</p>	 <p>Shape: Blunt</p>



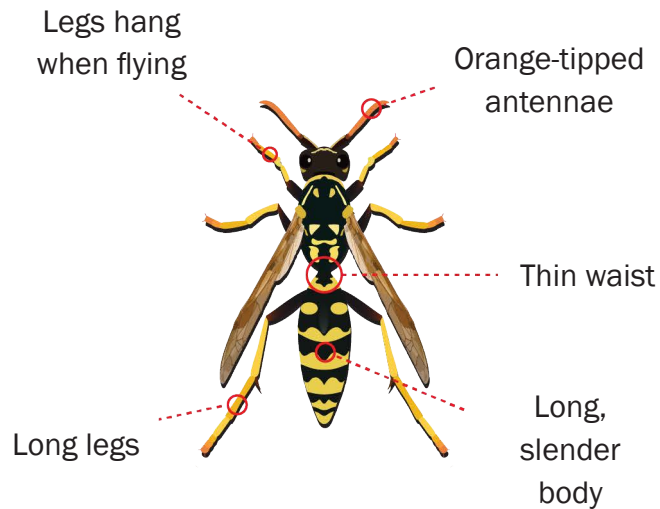
# STINGING PESTS

## Identification Chart

### Characteristics

### Risk, Diet, Nest

#### Paper Wasp



#### Risk

Do not tend to be aggressive

#### Diet

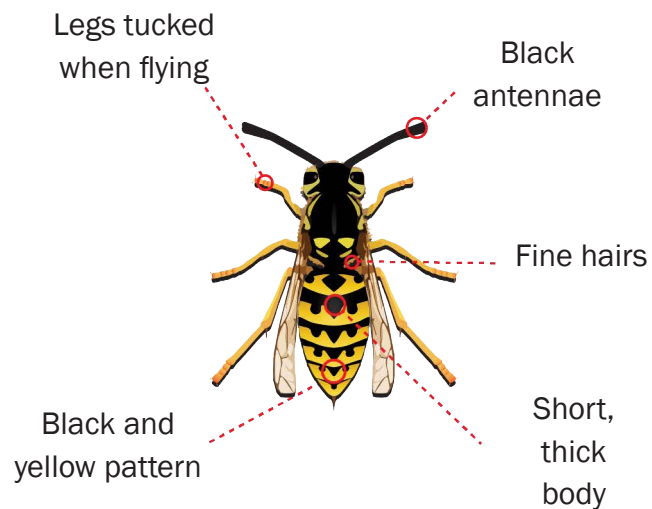
Ripe fruit, nectar, honeydew, and insects

#### Nest

Umbrella-shaped and have visible combs. Typically built on man-made structures like gutters and eaves.



#### Yellowjacket



#### Risk

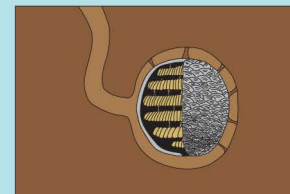
Tend to be aggressive

#### Diet

Nectar, human food, or insects

#### Nest

Typically built underground with single entrance hole. Nests built above-ground are enclosed with an outer layer.



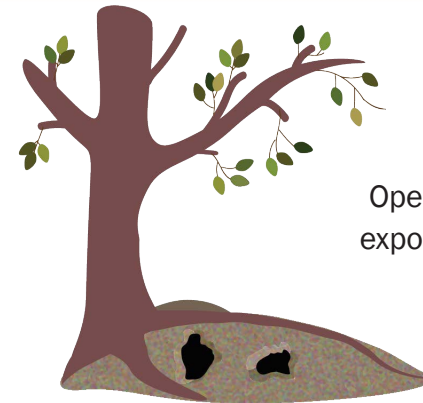
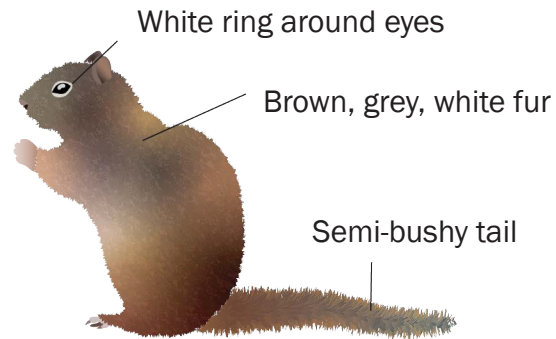
# BURROWING PESTS

## Identification Chart

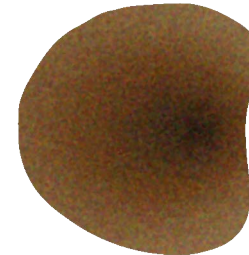
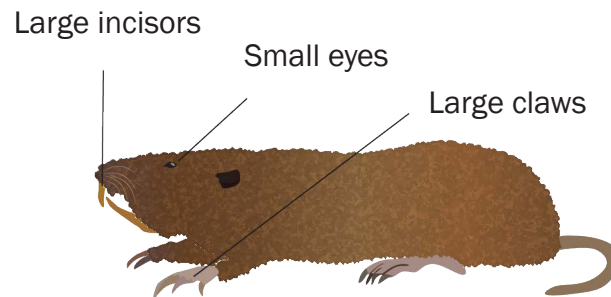
### Characteristics

### Burrow Type

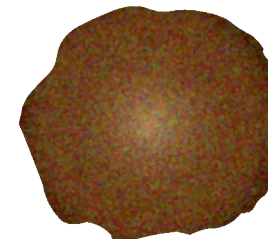
#### Ground Squirrel



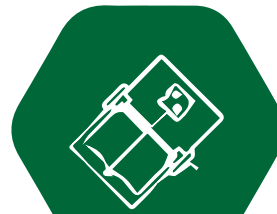
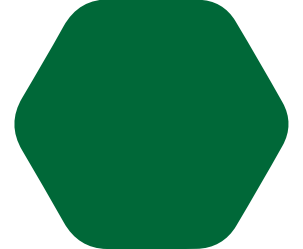
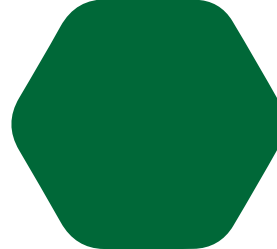
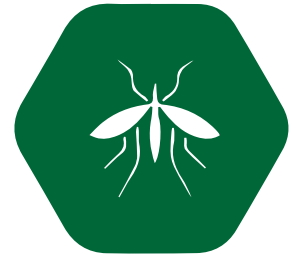
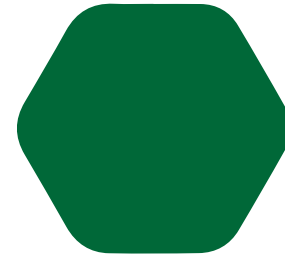
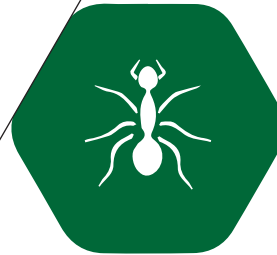
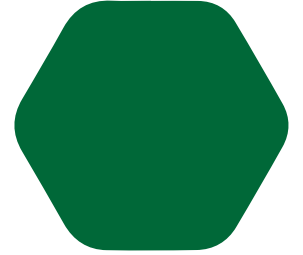
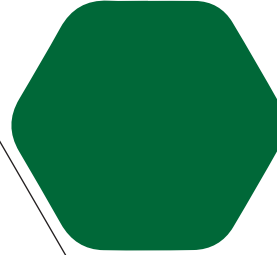
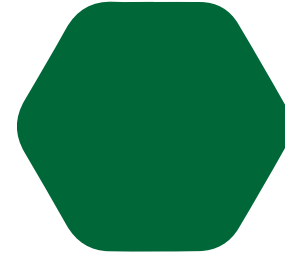
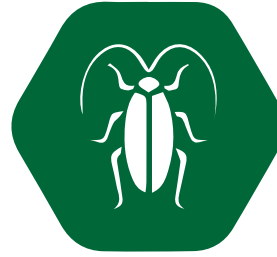
#### Pocket Gopher



#### Mole



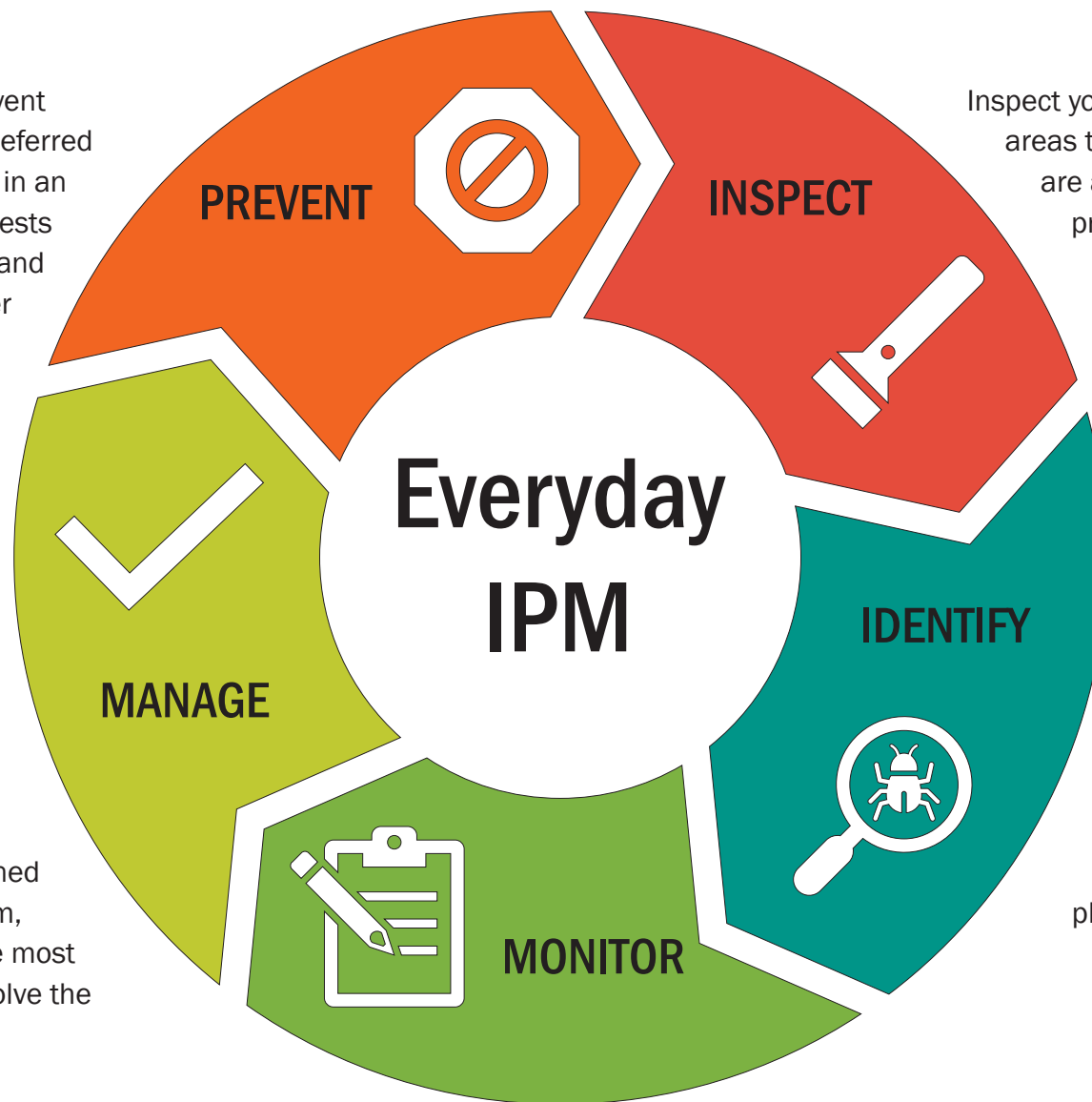
# INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



# Principles of IPM

Taking actions to prevent pests is always the preferred way to manage pests in an IPM program. Many pests are attracted to food and water, and find shelter and hiding spots in cracks and crevices or cluttered places.

If pests become a problem, you will need to manage them. Once you've identified the pest problem, the type of pest, found the pest entry points and learned what's attracting them, you can then take the most effective actions to solve the problem long-term.



Inspect your indoor and outdoor areas thoroughly so you are alerted to any pest problems early on. During an inspection, you are looking for evidence of pests (or their damage): what kind, how many, where.

Identify exactly which pests are present in and around your facility. Positive identification will help you to determine the best plan of action.

Monitoring for pests is an ongoing process that is very important. To successfully prevent pests or eliminate them from your facility, you need to continually monitor for their presence!



# Implementing an IPM Plan

1

## Plan

Create an IPM Plan and publish it on the school, district, or child care center website. If a website does not exist, include the IPM Plan in the annual written notification.

2

## Choose a Coordinator

Designate an IPM coordinator who coordinates and leads the day-to-day IPM activities and acts as a liaison with staff, a pest management company (if used), and parents.

3

## Train

IPM is a team effort, requiring collaboration among teachers, staff, and volunteers who use any pesticides, including exempt pesticides

4

## Loop in Contractor

Collect information for any outside contractors. If you require the services of a pest management professional, hire one with IPM experience, who follows the Healthy Schools Act requirements.

5

## Inspect and Monitor

Routinely inspect identified areas in your pest management plan. When needed, place monitoring traps in areas where children cannot access them. Maintenance staff or the IPM Coordinator should frequently monitor traps.

6

## Identify Pests

When you practice IPM, you need to identify the pests in your facility and know their characteristics and life cycles.

7

## Specify Actions

The action plan should include: how you will prevent, detect, and manage pest problems if they occur. Create a plan for each pest in your environment.

8

## Recordkeeping

Maintain a record of all pesticide applications and a registry of all parents and staff who want to be notified of any pesticide applications for four years.

9

## Evaluate

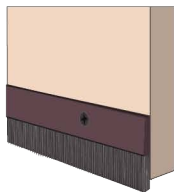
Work with staff and parents on a regular basis to improve their understanding of IPM and identify areas for improvement.



# COCKROACHES



## Prevent



Install door sweeps and seal gaps on exterior walls and around plumbing to prevent indoor access.

## Clean



Remove food and water sources.

## Declutter



Get rid of clutter to remove hiding places for cockroaches.

## Monitor



Use traps and do site inspections year-round to monitor for cockroaches. Inspect boxes and deliveries for hitchhiking pests.

## Identify



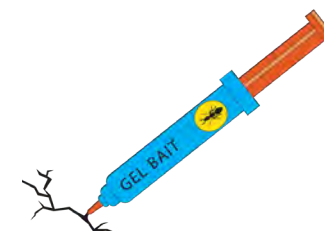
Cockroach species have different behaviors and location preferences. Identify the species to the plan for effective management.

## Remove



Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter to remove cockroaches, egg cases, droppings, and shed skins.

## Bait



Use bait in combination with insect growth regulators to eliminate cockroaches.

# COMMENSAL RODENTS



## Trapping Tips

Trapping is a lower-risk, effective, and sustainable method of managing commensal rodents.

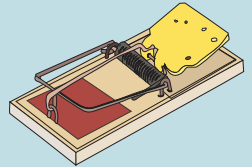
## Identify

Rodent species have different behaviors and location preferences. Identify the species to plan for effective management.

## Pre-Baiting Traps

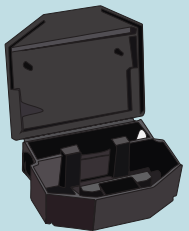
Rats tend to avoid new objects in their environment. Pre-baiting traps increases the effectiveness of trapping by combating this behavior. Pre-baiting traps is the process of placing a baited trap without setting it. Repeat this process a few times until the rodent becomes familiar with the trap. Then set the trap.

*Possible baits include: Chocolate syrup, dried food, nutmeats, or bacon.*



## Placing Traps Out of Reach

To prevent children and pets from gaining access, place traps in tamper-resistant bait boxes. The U.S. EPA has criteria listed for tamper-resistant bait boxes that can be found on Pesticide Registration {PR} Notice 94-7.



### Norway Rat



Place traps close to walls, behind objects, and in dark corners.

### Roof Rat



Place traps off the ground on ledges, shelves, branches, pipes, in attics, or garage rafters.

### House Mouse



Place traps close to walls, behind objects, or in areas where there is evidence of mouse activity.

# STINGING INSECTS



## Yellowjackets

Yellowjackets can be aggressive. Removal of nests may be necessary at schools.

### Prevention

Empty garbage regularly and keep trash in tightly closed container. Clean any food or drink spillage.

### Nest Removal Services

Contact your local Vector Control District to ask if they provide nest removal services. Or contact a Pest Management Professional to safely remove the nests.

## Paper Wasp

Know your tolerance. Paper wasps are not aggressive and will only sting when threatened. However, nest removal may be necessary in high traffic areas or if someone gets stung.

### Prevention

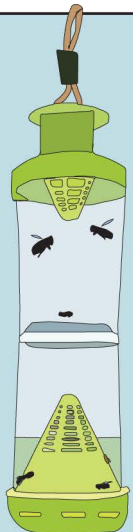
Monitor for nests in early spring and remove them as soon as possible.

### Nest Removal Services

Reduce the number of paper wasps present at your school by removing nests in early spring when they are small. Large nests are best removed early in the morning or after dark. For aggressive nests, you may need to contact a Pest Management Professional.

## Trapping Tips

- Set up lure traps in early spring to reduce the number of wasps searching for nesting sites
- Use attractants that are labelled specifically for the targeted wasp species
- Check for an EPA Registration # because some attractants are registered pesticides
- Place traps away from buildings, heavily-trafficked areas, and active nests
- Position traps in the flight path to the nest
- Use more traps than you think you need
- Check lure traps to monitor population size



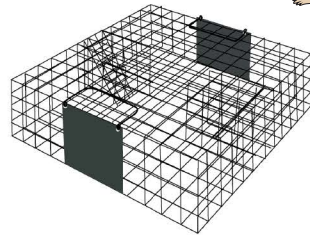


## Ground Squirrel Trapping



### Live Traps

Live traps capture animals without killing them. These traps are good to use in endangered species territory.



### Setting Live Traps

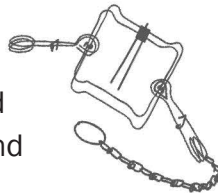
- Place trap several feet away from burrow entrance
- Pre-bait trap to increase capture rate

### Regulations

- [CFG Code § 465.5, § 4005]
- Live animals cannot be translocated
  - Check traps on a daily basis
  - Euthanize with CO2

### Kill Traps

Conibear, box, and tunnel traps are used to capture and kill ground squirrels. Conibear traps are highly visible and should be placed in covered boxes to reduce non-target exposure, especially on schoolsites.



### Setting Kill Traps

- Box and tunnel: Place trap near burrow entrances or in runways
- Conibear: Place trap on burrow entrance in a covered box
- Cover all other burrow openings to increase success

### Protect Yourself!

- Ground squirrels can carry diseases
- Wear protective gear when handling carcasses

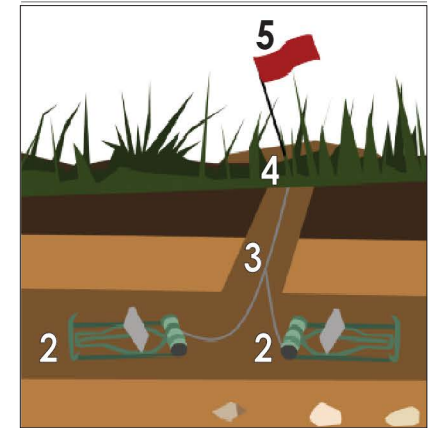
## Pocket Gopher Trapping



There are many different types of gopher traps, however, 2-pronged pincer traps are the most common.

### Setting 2-Pronged Traps

1. Probe soil to find active runway
2. Set a pair of traps facing opposite directions in runway
3. Anchor traps in place
4. Cover the hole
5. Mark area
6. Check every 24 hours
7. Move trap to another location if not caught



## Mole Trapping

Subterranean traps are set to capture moles underground in their tunnel system.

### Setting Subterranean Traps

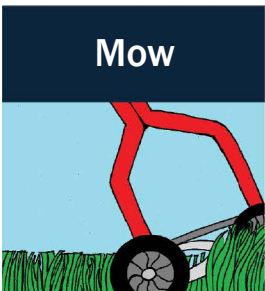
- Monitor mole activity
- Tamp down mounds to find the most active runway
- Probe soil to find tunnel
- Place trap 18 inches from mound
- Allow the trap to encircle the tunnel
- Set more traps than the number of moles suspected





## Healthy Lawn Practices

### Mow



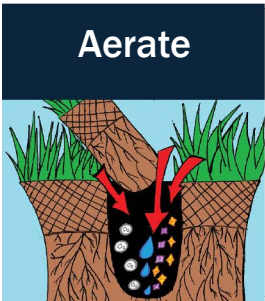
- Mow when grass is dry
- Keep blades sharp
- Remove 1/3 of the grass height

### Irrigate



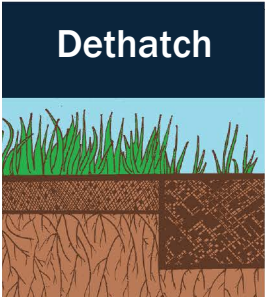
- Irrigate infrequently
- Allow water to seep 6" deep
- Water when top 2" of soil is dry

### Aerate



- Aerate turf once a year
- Frequently aerate heavily trafficked turf
- Fertilize according to soil nutrient levels

### Dethatch



- Dethatch when thatch layer is less than 1/2 inch thick
- Helps increase oxygen, water, and nutrient flow
- Fertilize appropriately to restore nutrients after dethatching

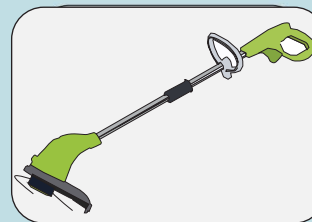
## Alternatives to Herbicides

### Hand-Pulling



Hand-pull weeds before they set seed to help reduce infestations.

### String Trimmer



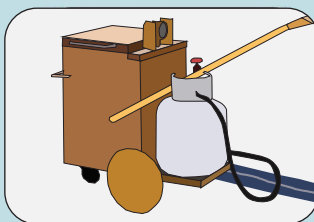
Clear weeds from hardscapes with a string trimmer.

### Overseeding



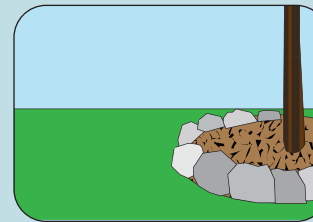
Help grass out-compete weeds and repair patchy spots in lawns.

### Crack Sealing



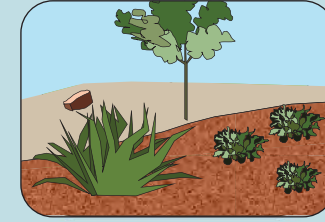
Repair cracks in pavement to help prevent weed seeds from germinating.

### Mulch



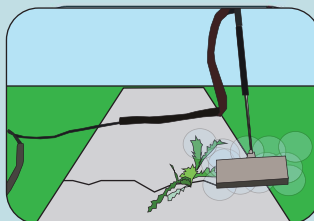
Maintain mulch at 3 to 5 inches to improve water conservation and weed management.

### Xeriscaping



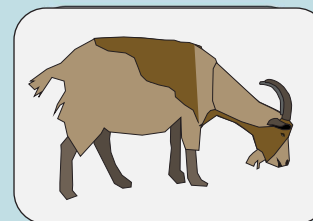
Replace ornamental plants with native species that require less water and maintenance.

### Heat



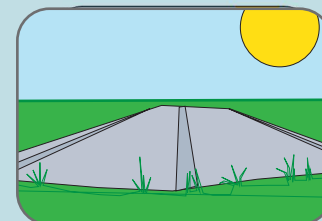
Kill weeds at the roots with heat using flame weeders, steam weeders, or foam steamers.

### Goats

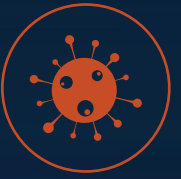


Hire goats to eat weeds and clear fields of unwanted vegetation.

### Solarization



Kill weed seeds with soil solarization by cooking the soil under a plastic tarp.



Sanitizers and disinfectants are antimicrobial pesticides used on contaminated surfaces to kill germs, like bacteria, viruses, and fungi. Though these products are exempt from most of the HSA requirements, the annual HSA training is still required.

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CLEANING, SANITIZING, AND DISINFECTING?



### Cleaning

Physically removes dirt, grime, oils, and some germs from a surface.



### Sanitizing

Reduces germs on surfaces to levels considered “safe” by public health authorities.



### Disinfecting

Chemically destroys or inactivates almost all germs on a surface.

## ANTIMICROBIAL PESTICIDES VS GENERAL PURPOSE CLEANERS

### Antimicrobial Pesticides

- Kills germs
- EPA Reg. number

### General Purpose Cleaners

- Removes dirt and grime
- No EPA Reg. number

### Using Antimicrobial Pesticides

To reduce the risks associated with using pesticides, use antimicrobial pesticides for their intended purposes—sanitizing and disinfecting.

For simple cleaning, use general purpose products.





# OUR MISSION

We protect human health and the environment by fostering sustainable pest management and regulating pesticides.

# OUR VISION

Pest management that is safe, effective, and sustainable for all Californians and our environment.

Website: [www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)



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