



# THE PEST DEFENSE FOR HEALTHY SCHOOLS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR SCHOOL STAFF

Healthy, High-Performing and Pest-Free Schools through Integrated Pest Management

**Learn how to identify and effectively manage pests while minimizing pesticide and pest management hazards!**

Pests are not acceptable in school environments! Cockroaches, mice and dust mites cause asthma and trigger asthma attacks and allergy symptoms, hurting both staff and student attendance and performance.

The resurgence of bed bugs is a growing problem for many schools, along with head lice, stinging ants and other pests that distract from meeting learning objectives.



**Dr. Thomas Green,** president of the IPM Institute of North America, giving an in-person Pest Defense training.

## IN-PERSON TRAINING

To arrange an in-person training at your event by one of our experienced experts, please email [schoolipm@ipminstitute.org](mailto:schoolipm@ipminstitute.org), or call the IPM Institute of North America at 608 232-1410.

Training participants earn a proficiency certificate. All training modules can be submitted for pesticide applicator and/or registered sanitarian Continuing Education Credits when applicable and upon request.



**Testimonial:**  
*"I liked that he had visuals and real samples of bugs. Thank you! Very informative."*

**The Pest Defense for Healthy Schools is a new IPM training package for K-12 staff. Individualized training modules for the following groups are available:**

- Facility Managers
- Maintenance Staff
- Administrative Staff
- Teachers
- Food Service Staff
- Custodial Staff
- Landscape and Grounds Staff
- School Nurses
- IPM Basics Introduction

## ONLINE TRAINING

Online versions of The Pest Defense training courses are available for self-guided training and can be taken at any time.

All **online training** is available at [pestdefenseforhealthyschools.org](http://pestdefenseforhealthyschools.org)



# LIST OF THE PEST DEFENSE TRAINING COURSES

## **The Pest Defense - A BASIC INTRODUCTION FOR EVERYONE:**

Providing safe and healthy school environments is a high-priority for communities everywhere. Schools are sensitive environments, in which effective pest management is an essential and critically important responsibility. Students spend a major part of their day at school and the environmental standards set, have profound impacts on their health and academic success. As any high-traffic facility, schools face pest and pest management challenges that impact their proper functioning. Integrated Pest Management or IPM is a strategy that ensures safe, cost-effective and sustainable pest management, reducing risks associated with pests and their management.

Everyone in a school community plays a role in IPM because common human habits may create pest-conducive conditions. This IPM introductory module explains important IPM concepts and helps to increase awareness of how our everyday choices affect pest populations around us. This training will help learners to gain a basic understanding of IPM principles. The training modules are designed to help busy professionals keep schools and their homes pest free.

## **The Pest Defense - MAINTENANCE STAFF:**

School maintenance professionals prevent problems with bed bugs, cockroaches and other pests that threaten student and staff health and performance. Maintenance staff can learn how to keep pests out of schools, ensuring that the school building is functioning at peak performance.

## **The Pest Defense - FOOD SERVICE PROFESSIONALS:**

Food Service professionals prevent problems with flies, ants, cockroaches and other pests that threaten student health. Food service staff can learn how to keep common pests out of kitchens and pantries as they go about their regular duties. Clean and well-maintained food service areas are critical for the health and well-being of everyone in the school.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES ALINE WITH ServSafe® Food Handler STANDARDS



## **The Pest Defense - CUSTODIANS:**

Did you know cockroaches, mice and dust mites can cause asthma and trigger asthma attacks? Custodians can learn how to correct conducive conditions for pests in schools by “thinking pests” as they go about their regular duties.

## **The Pest Defense - FACILITY MANAGERS:**

Facility Managers can learn how to avoid pest infestations and reduce risks associated with pests and pest management practices, ensuring that the school environment is safe and secure. This training helps busy Facility Managers keep schools pest free with a minimum of pesticides reducing liability concerns for the school.

## **The Pest Defense - LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS:**

Landscape and grounds managers can learn how to prevent pests like mice and fire ants from inhabiting outdoor spaces and migrating into the school, ensuring that the school’s landscapes and turf are healthy, and pesticides are used and stored appropriately. This training helps busy Landscape and Grounds staff keep schools pest free and assure staff and student safety.

## **The Pest Defense - TEACHERS:**

Did you know there are a number of communicable pests found in classrooms, not just head lice? Teachers learn how to keep communicable pests out of schools by working with students to prevent pests from coming into the school in the first place.

## **The Pest Defense - SCHOOL NURSES:**

School nurses are on the front lines of preventing problems with communicable pests such as head lice and bed bugs that threaten student health and performance. Did you know cockroaches, mice and dust mites can cause asthma and trigger asthma attacks? School nurses will learn how to identify symptoms resulting from pest and pesticide exposure, as well as pest-related injuries or sensitivities.

## **The Pest Defense - ADMINISTRATORS:**

Administrators will learn how to create a successful plan that keeps pests out, ensuring that the school environment is safe and secure in order to maximize academic achievement.