

2020



School & Child Care IPM Outreach Summary

The Healthy Schools Act

Legal Reference and Intent

Food and Agricultural Code section 13182: It is the policy of the state that effective least toxic pest management practices should be the preferred method of managing pests at schoolsites and that the state, in order to reduce children's exposure to toxic pesticides, shall take the necessary steps, pursuant to this article, to facilitate the adoption of effective least toxic pest management practices at schoolsites.

Legal Agency for Compliance Assistance

California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Branch
School and Child Care IPM Programs
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015

Key Contacts for DPR

Aimee Norman, IPM Branch Chief
Lisa Estridge, Urban IPM Unit Manager

How to get more information

E-mail: school-ipm@cdpr.ca.gov
Website at: www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/schoolipm

About Us

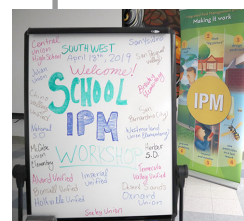
The Department of Pesticide Regulation's School and Child Care Integrated Pest Management Programs conduct outreach and education activities to facilitate the voluntary adoption of effective, least-toxic pest management practices—also known as integrated pest management (IPM)—at schoolsites throughout California. Schoolsites, a term defined in the Healthy Schools Act, include public K – 12 schools and many licensed child care centers. Our IPM Programs communicate frequently with stakeholders and our staff are readily available to the public to help with pest management related inquiries.

We are committed to assisting California schoolsites with their pest management goals and to encouraging the use of effective, least-toxic pest management practices. We are pleased to bring you this summary, which includes an overview of our 2020 outreach and education activities.

Sincerely,

Lisa Estridge

Lisa Estridge



Introduction

The Healthy Schools Act requires the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to facilitate the voluntary adoption of IPM at schoolsites. To fulfill this mandate, the DPR School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs conduct outreach and education activities and provide Healthy Schools Act compliance assistance to schoolsites throughout California.

In 2020, the work done by the School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs was largely influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many new resources focused on the proper use of disinfectants and surface sanitizers, and in-person outreach and education activities quickly transitioned to virtual events. Through all the difficulties experienced during 2020, stakeholder engagement continued to be the top priority for our Programs.

**Education
Activities**

Resources

**Outreach
Events**

**Digital
Communication**

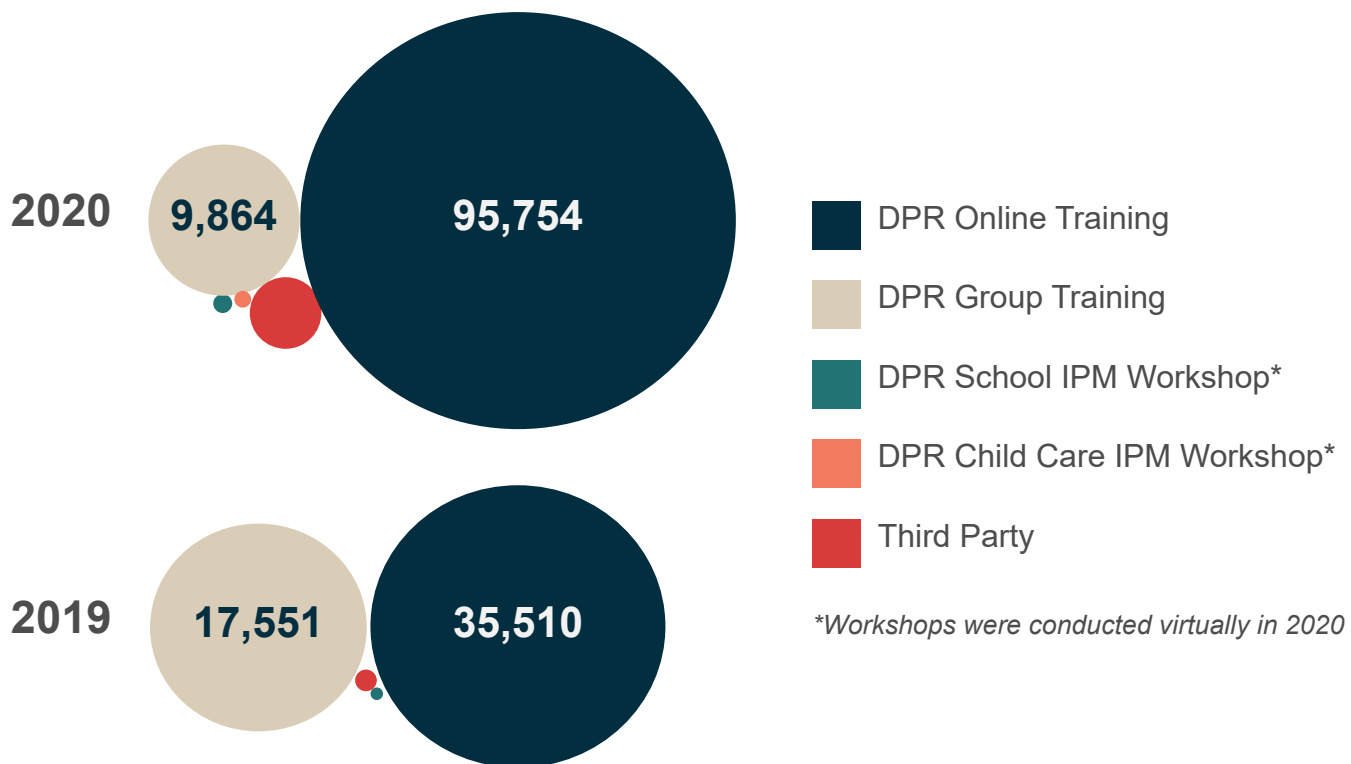
**Data-driven
Outreach**

Education Activities Summary

The Healthy Schools Act requires school and child care staff to complete an annual training course before applying pesticides, including disinfecting wipes, at a schoolsite. The training course must be provided by DPR or a third-party agency approved by DPR, and include information about IPM and the safe use of pesticides in relation to the unique nature of schoolsites and children's health.

109,113 people completed a training course in 2020, a **96%** increase from 2019

Healthy Schools Act Training Course Attendees



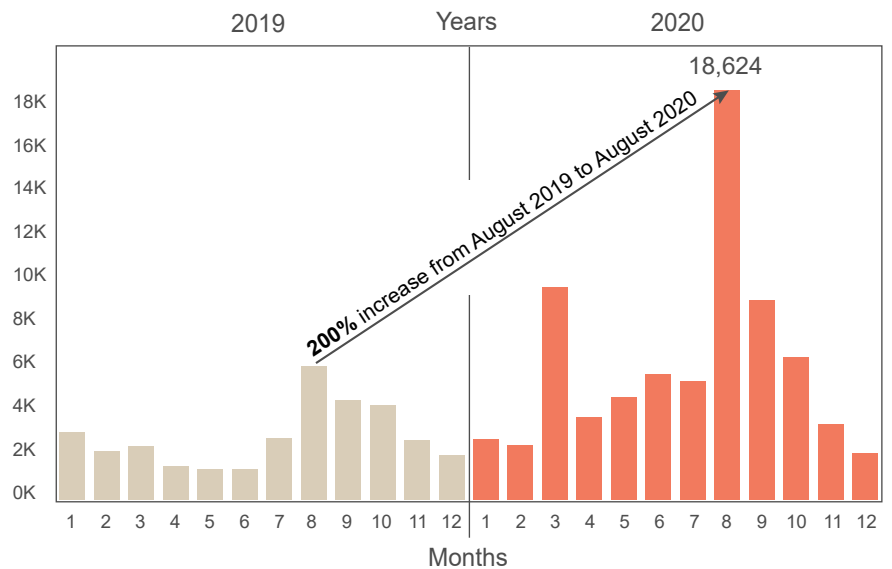
**Workshops were conducted virtually in 2020*

Education Activities: DPR Online Training Courses

DPR offers three free, online Healthy Schools Act training courses. Overall, course completions mirrored a similar pattern to 2019 with an enrollment spike in March 2020 coinciding with the beginning of the pandemic and with most course completions occurring in August in anticipation of the new school year.

200% increase in trainings completed in month of August, comparing 2020 to 2019

Online trainings by year and month



Online training course totals

DPR Online Training Course	2019 Total Trained	2020 Total Trained
Basic IPM for Classroom and Office Environments	28,992	65,051
Basic IPM ..., Spanish	438	1,031
Integrated Germ Management (IGM)	4,635	21,026
Integrated Germ Management (IGM), Spanish	41	311
Advanced Pest Management	1,404	8,335
Total Trained	35,510	95,754

Education Activities: Workshops

In 2020, School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs hosted virtual workshops for the first time. The transition to virtual format greatly expanded both Programs' reach to training audiences, resulting in higher attendance.

School IPM workshop attendance increased **106%** compared to 2019 with addition of virtual workshops

123 child care health and safety trainers attended in-person and virtual Train-the-Trainer Workshops—offered for the first time in 2020

School IPM: Attendees participated in an interactive virtual inspection of a school campus.

Pest Scavenger Hunt

Pests are hiding around the campus.

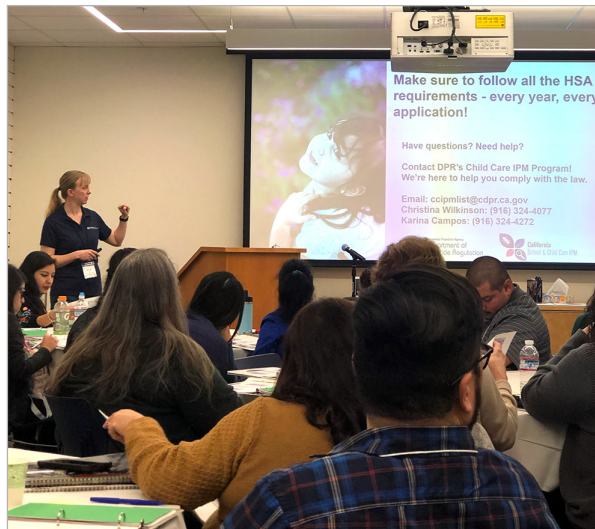
Look for conducive conditions (CC's) and submit your findings into the chat box.

[Digital Tour of Head Start Program in CCC](#)

Pest	#	Location	Conducive Conditions

Icons of various pests: mouse, beetle, ant, spider, tick, fly, and another mouse.

Child Care IPM: February 2020, first Train-the-Trainer workshop event was held in person. All events following moved to virtual platform.



Resources: Healthy Schools Act

Both School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs staff created new resources in response to COVID-19. Topics included safe use of disinfectants at schools and child care centers, differences between cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

DPR created 57% more user resources for antimicrobial pesticides in 2020

Step-by-Step Cleaning for Child Care Programs

Cleaning means to remove dirt, dust, debris, and sticky substances by washing, wiping, scrubbing, or mopping surfaces with soap or detergent and water. Routine cleaning of toys, floors, cribs, cots, mats, play equipment, refrigerators, counters, and shelves is recommended for child care settings.

- STEP 1** Gloves may be worn to protect skin. Always follow product label directions for personal protective equipment like gloves.
- STEP 2** Spray the cleaning solution onto the surface.
- STEP 3** Wipe the surface with a single use paper towel, a microfiber cloth, or a mop.
- STEP 4** Rinse according to product label directions.
- STEP 5** Allow the surface to air dry, or dry with a fresh paper towel or microfiber cloth.

Important note: Some cleaning products are ready-to-use and some are meant to be diluted with water. Always follow product label directions!

Step-by-Step Sanitizing for Child Care Programs

Sanitizing means to kill germs at a level that reduces the risk of becoming ill from contact with germs on the surface. Sanitizing is used on food contact surfaces (dishes, utensils, cutting boards, high chair trays, tables), toys that may place in their mouths, pacifiers, and mixed use tables. Choose an EPA registered sanitizer that is approved for use on food contact surfaces. **DO NOT USE SANITIZERS NEAR CHILDREN!**

- STEP 1** Put on gloves.
- STEP 2** Pre-clean the surface with soap and water. Surfaces should be clean before applying a disinfectant.
- STEP 3** Apply the sanitizer. Spray away from people and provide ventilation.
- STEP 4** Leave the surface wet for the appropriate (dwell) time stated on the label. Set a timer to keep track of time.
- STEP 5** Allow the surface to air dry, or dry with a fresh paper towel or microfiber cloth.

Important note: Some sanitizers are ready-to-use and some are meant to be diluted with water. Always follow product label directions!

Step-by-Step Disinfecting for Child Care Programs

Disinfecting means to destroy almost all germs that could make a person sick. Disinfecting is for toilet areas and high-touch areas that collect lots of germs (bathroom faucets and counters, diaper changing tables, toilets, sinks used in toileting routines, drinking fountains, door knobs). Choose an EPA registered disinfectant, and use the product according to the label directions. **DO NOT USE DISINFECTANTS NEAR CHILDREN!**

- STEP 1** Put on gloves.
- STEP 2** Pre-clean the surface with soap and water. Surfaces should be clean before applying a disinfectant.
- STEP 3** Apply the disinfectant. Spray away from people and provide ventilation.
- STEP 4** Leave the surface wet for the appropriate contact (dwell) time stated on the product label. Set a timer to keep track of the time.
- STEP 5** Allow the surface to air dry, or dry with a fresh paper towel or microfiber cloth.

Important note: Some disinfectants are ready-to-use and some are meant to be diluted with water. Always follow product label directions!

PPE and Work Clothes for Child Care Programs

Personal Protective Equipment, or PPE, is equipment worn to minimize the risk of accidental exposure when working with chemicals like antimicrobial pesticides.

GLOVES

Protect your hands! Gloves will protect your hands when mixing or applying the product.

PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR

Protect your eyes! Safety glasses or goggles will protect your eyes from product splashes or sprays.

RESPIRATOR

Protect your mouth, nose, and lungs! Wearing a respirator or chemical-resistant face mask will protect you from inhaling harmful vapors.

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Protect your skin! Aprons will help protect your skin from splashes or sprays. Work clothes, such as long-sleeved shirts and pants, can also help.

CLOSED-TOED SHOES

Protect your feet! Closed-toed shoes are a good addition to your work clothes ensemble and will help protect your feet from spills or floor applications.

Different antimicrobial pesticides may require other kinds of PPE.

Always read the label to make sure you are using the correct PPE!

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Disinfectants & Surface Sanitizers in Schools and Child Care Programs

Providing a safe and healthy environment for students and staff is a priority for schools and child care programs. The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has put together the most commonly asked questions about using disinfectants and surface sanitizers to provide clarification about proper use while ensuring compliance with the Healthy Schools Act.

Do cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting mean the same thing?

No. These terms mean different things. **Cleaning** physically removes dirt, germs, and other debris from a surface. **Sanitizing** kills germs on a previously cleaned surface and lowers their number to a safe level, as judged by public health standards. **Disinfecting** kills a greater amount and wider range of germs than sanitizing.

Is training needed before using disinfectants and surface sanitizers at a school?

Yes. A California law called the **Healthy Schools Act** has a training requirement for anyone applying pesticides, including disinfectants and surface sanitizers, at a public K-12 school or licensed child care center. Family day care homes are exempt. DPR provides free Healthy Schools Act training courses online or in a group training kit. Additional chemical hazard training may be required by Cal/OSHA.

Can foggers, fumigators, wide-area sprayers, and electrostatic sprayers be used to apply disinfectants at schools?

Yes, but **only** if the disinfectant product label specifically includes directions for use with fogging, fumigating, wide-area spraying, or electrostatic spraying equipment. Always use the disinfectant product according to the directions on the label.

What kind of personal protective equipment is needed to apply disinfectants?

The label of the disinfectant will tell you what **personal protective equipment** or PPE is required to safely mix and apply the product. Different products require different PPE, and it may change depending on how the product is applied.

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Outreach Events

School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs staff hosted and participated in 11 professional speaking engagements throughout 2020, despite the unexpected challenges and limitations posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Audience members included: child care center staff, school staff, government agencies, researchers, and industry professionals.

232 attended a DPR virtual Brown Bag event, a **673%** increase in attendance compared to the previous in-person school IPM Brown Bag event in 2017

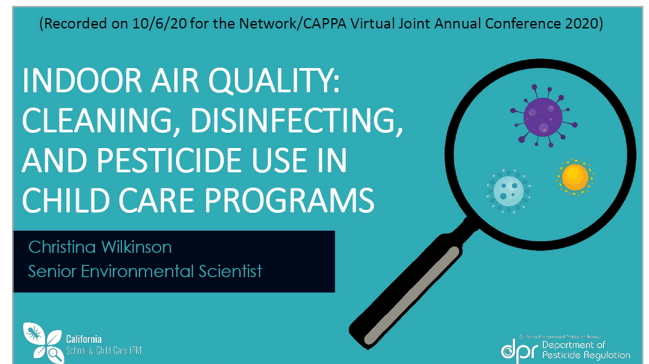
2020 PUR Workgroup

School IPM Program staff discussed the effects of local climate conditions and soil temperatures on herbicide applications at schools. This annual Pesticide Use Reporting Workgroup event highlights research related to pesticide use in California.



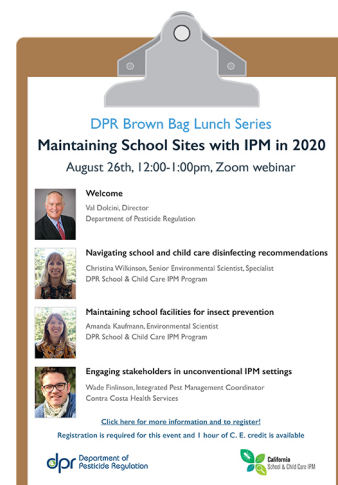
Response to SARS-CoV-19

Child Care IPM Program staff presented at 7 events. Topics focused on safe use of antimicrobial pesticides, pesticides and indoor air quality, and Healthy Schools Act requirements.



DPR Brown Bag Lunch webinar

School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs hosted and presented during our first-ever DPR virtual Brown Bag event. 52 DPR licensees received continuing education credit from attending the 2020 event.



Data-driven Outreach

Both the School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs utilize school pesticide use reporting (SPUR) data to guide outreach efforts.

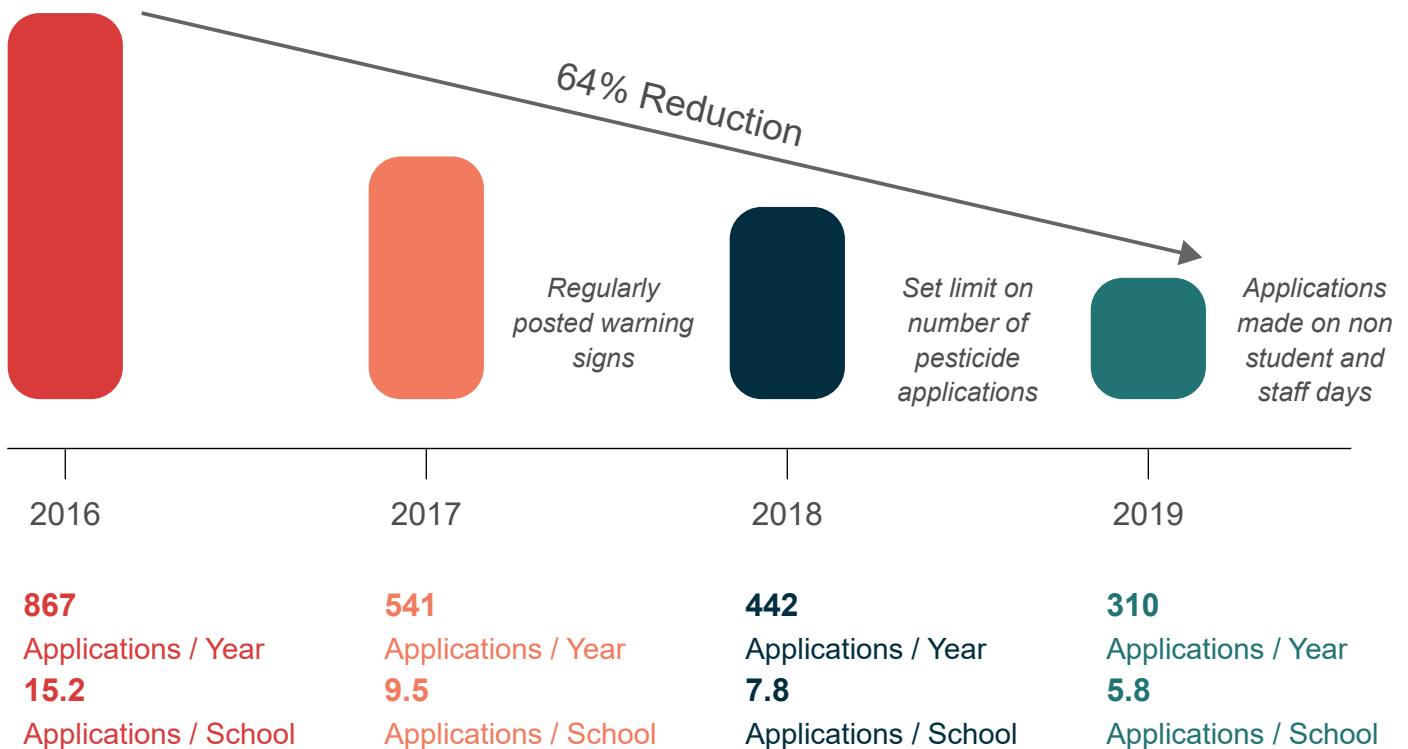
In 2020, the School IPM Program used SPUR data to identify insecticide application patterns by school staff. Program staff created custom IPM outreach materials for three districts and connected school staff with UC Agriculture and Natural Resources expert strategies.

DPR initiated customized data-driven outreach efforts for districts to reduce pesticide use, benefiting approximately **12,000** students

School District Success

Reducing Herbicide Applications

Using SPUR data, School IPM Program staff identified a school district's accomplishment in reducing herbicide applications and then created a video that highlighted the success story for others. This southern California school district has accomplished a **64%** reduction in herbicide use over the past **4** years.



Digital Communication: Listservs

School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs engage stakeholders by sending informative listserv emails. In 2020, listserv notifications included promotions for new School and Child Care IPM resources, training event invitations, and custom IPM-themed greetings. Total listserv messages in 2020 matched the 2019 total.

School IPM Program
sent **15** listservs to their
2,926 subscribers

Child Care IPM Program
sent **18** listservs to their
1,935 subscribers

CHECK OUT OUR NEW RESOURCES!
VISIT [CDPR.CA.GOV/SCHOOLIPM](https://cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm) TO VIEW THESE RESOURCES AND MORE

PPE and Work Clothes for Child Care Programs

- GLOVES:** Protect your hands! Gloves will protect your hands when using or applying pesticides.
- RESPIRATOR:** Protect your mouth, nose, and lungs! Wearing a respirator or chemical-resistant face mask will protect you from inhaling harmful vapors.
- CLOSED-TOED SHOES:** Protect your feet! Closed-toed shoes are a good addition to your work clothes ensemble and will help protect your feet from cuts or other injuries.

Disinfectants & Surface Sanitizers in Schools and Child Care Programs

- Do cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting mean the same thing?** No, there is more to it than that. Cleaning physically removes dirt, germs, and other debris from a surface. Sanitizing kills germs on a generally cleaned surface and leaves them unable to cause harm. Disinfecting kills germs to a greater extent and under a range of germs than sanitizing.
- Is training needed before using disinfectants and surface sanitizers at a school?** Yes. A California school district or county is required to provide training for anyone applying pesticides, including disinfectants and surface sanitizers, at a public K-12 school or licensed child care center. Family day care homes are exempt. DPR provides the Healthy Schools Act training course, which is available on the DPR website. Additional chemical hazard training may be required by Cal/OSHA.
- Can foggers, fumigants, wide area sprayers, and electronic repellents be used for pest management at a school?** Yes, but only if the disinfectant product label specifically includes directions for use with fogging, fumigating, wide area spraying, or electronic repellent equipment. Always use the disinfectant product according to the directions on the label.
- What kind of personal protective equipment is needed to apply disinfectants?** The label of the disinfectant will tell you what personal protective equipment, or PPE, is required to safely use and apply the product. Different products require different PPE, and it may change depending on how the product is applied.

School Integrated Pest Management Workshop

We've gone **virtual!** Join us for our online School IPM Workshop.

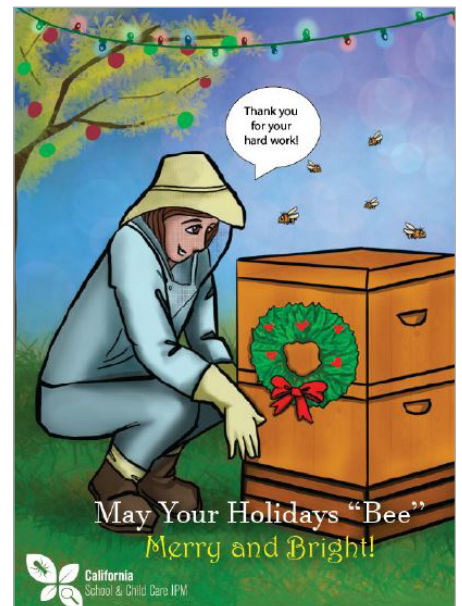
This half-day course will cover Healthy Schools Act, Structural and Landscape training.

June 30th, 2020
8:00 am - 12:00 pm
via Zoom

NO REGISTRATION FEE
SPACE IS LIMITED!

Register Now:
<https://cvent.me/IVAkag>

Questions? Email us at: school-ipm@cdpr.ca.gov
DPR CE Credit: 2 hrs Other, 1 hr Law

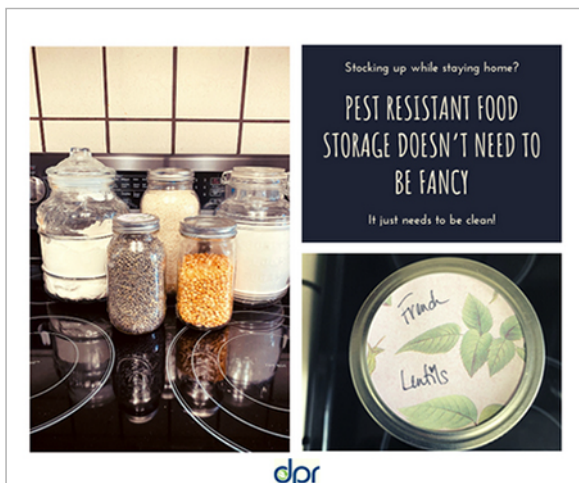
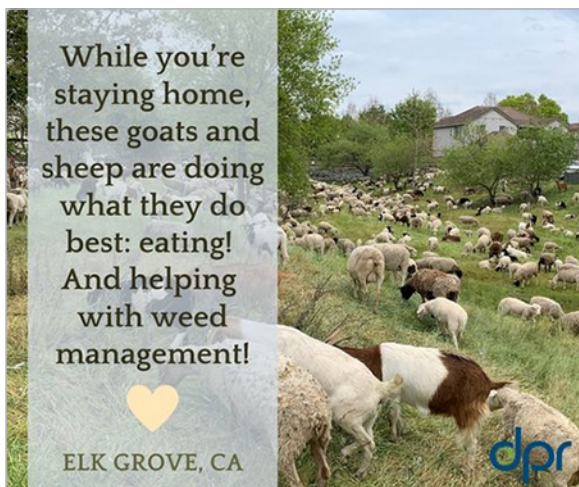


Digital Communication: Social Media

Together with the DPR Community IPM Program, staff created a collection of IPM-focused social media posts and videos in English and Spanish to reach target audience groups quickly on popular platforms. These resources offered helpful IPM tips for homeowners—an increased need heightened by more time spent at home due to the pandemic.

26 IPM social media posts
in English and Spanish

21 social media videos
in English and Spanish



Conclusion

Our outreach and education activities in 2020 addressed unique circumstances and stakeholder needs. Stakeholders responded to School IPM and Child Care IPM Programs' resources by taking DPR Healthy Schools Act online training, attending workshops and events, and viewing social media content.

Overall stakeholder engagement through training and workshop attendance increased by **97%** compared to 2019.

Thank you for making safe pesticide use a priority for schools and child care centers in 2020.

Information about School IPM workshops:

school-ipm@cdpr.ca.gov

Information about Child Care IPM workshops:

ccipmlist@cdpr.ca.gov

Not sure which training course to take?

https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/schoolipm/training/what_hsa_course_should_i_take.pdf



Our mission is to protect human health and the environment by regulating pesticide sales and use, and by fostering reduced-risk pest management.

www.cdpr.ca.gov