In March 1999, the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District adopted an integrated pest management policy to address pest problems on District properties.

The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and safety of students, faculty and other staff, and anyone else who may come on District property.

The IPM policy outlines a reduced-risk approach to managing pest problems on District properties by using non-chemical means to the extent possible. When pesticides must be used, lower-risk products are employed.
It is estimated that students spend approximately 1100 hours in school buildings. Students also spend additional time on school grounds and athletic fields. Children’s biological systems are not fully developed and they can be negatively impacted by chemicals that are used for pest control in their environments. The risk to students from pest control chemicals can be minimized by reducing or eliminating their exposure to these materials.
For survival, pests basically need:

- Food
- Water
- Shelter (a place to hide out).

Anything that we can do to reduce and/or eliminate these needs will help to reduce pest problems.
Integrated pest management at schools can be simply summarized as follows:

- Don’t let them eat
- Don’t let them drink
- Don’t let them hide out
- Don’t let them come in
Effective Non-Chemical IPM
Methodologies Include:

- Monitoring
- Exclusion
- Water Management
- Improved Sanitation
- Habitat Modifications
District pest management staff utilizes “sticky” and various types of mechanical traps to monitor for the presence, population levels, and pathways of pests such as cockroaches and rodents.
EXCLUSION

Do not allow pests easy access to the insides of buildings. We can do this by:

- Installing door sweeps on critical exterior doors that need them.
- Keep doors closed when not in use. Do not prop doors open, especially doors that lead to food storage, handling, and preparation areas. Flying insects such as flies, bees, wasps, mosquitoes, etc. will enter buildings if doors are left open.
Tight fitting door sweeps keep pests out
Open doors are invitations for pests to enter.
Keep Bees Out!
Keep the Door Closed!
Deny pests access to water by doing the following:

- Report leaky pipes so that they can be fixed.
- Irrigation systems should function properly to ensure that there is not over watering of greenery, creating water puddles.
- Do not conduct excessive outdoor washing off of areas. Wash only when you need to. Accumulated excess water attract pests.
- Do what you can to eliminate water accumulations on school grounds as these could serving as breeding sites for mosquitoes which carry West Nile Virus.
Excess irrigation is a source of water for pests at schools.
Pigeons drinking from wash water runoff
Pigeons drinking from wash water on lunch tables
IMPROVED SANITATION

- Food service facilities should be well maintained and kept in a clean, sanitary condition at all times.
- Food should be properly stored in pest-proof containers in classrooms.
Food scraps left on lunch tables attract pigeons.

**Pigeons are not pets, so PLEASE DON’T FEED THE PIGEONS.**

Pigeons are flying rats.

Pigeons, their feces, feathers, dead birds, nest materials, and ecto-parasites are implicated in the transmission of over 40 diseases.

**PLEASE DISCOURAGE PIGEONS FROM LIVING AT SCHOOLS BY DISPOSING OF YOUR TRASH IN TRASH CONTAINERS. THANK YOU.**
Food left on lunch tables attract pests. Pigeons carry diseases.
Chip bags that are dropped on school grounds are food sources for rats, mice, and pigeons.
Crumbs from potato chip bag (white material) provide food for birds and rodents.
Food dropped on ground attract pests such as pigeons
Identify and report miscellaneous debris and clutter on school grounds so that they can be removed thus denying pests, such as rats and mice, good harborage areas.
Clutter provides hiding places for pests. Please help reduce storage on school grounds.
Areas like this provide good harborages for rodents
Please advise everyone not to encourage animals to live on District properties by providing food and water for them.

According to Section 53.06.5 of Los Angeles Municipal Code, it is illegal to feed wild animals including feral cats.

Animals such as dogs, cats, opossums, raccoons, and skunks are health threats to people from their bites, feces, urine, hairs, and various ecto- and endo-parasites that can transmit diseases.

PLEASE DO NOT FEED ANIMALS ON DISTRICT PROPERTY. Thank you.
DO NOT FEED THE CATS
THEY WILL BE TRAPPED
AND THEN TAKEN TO THE
ANIMAL SHELTER

THE SMELL AND MESS
FROM THE CATS CREATE
A HEALTH HAZARD
SO WHAT CAN **YOU** DO TO MINIMIZE THE PRESENCE OF PESTS AT YOUR SCHOOL OR OFFICE?
How can **Site Administrators** Help?

- Share this presentation with teachers, students, and parent organizations.
- Set a good example and demonstrate leadership regarding the use of IPM methodologies discussed in this presentation by students, faculty, and other staff.
How Can Teachers Help?

- Set a good example and demonstrate leadership regarding sanitation issues.
- Do not bring, store, or apply pesticides on school property.
- Do not store, prepare, cook, heat, and consume food in classrooms.
- Any food materials kept for educational purposes such as beans, macaroni, etc. must be kept in pest-proof containers.
- Keep classrooms clean and free of food debris and food wrappers, etc.
- Educate students about practicing good sanitation.
- Reduce clutter and miscellaneous storage in your classroom.
- Do not feed cats, dogs, birds, and wild animals on school property.
How Can Students Help?

Show pride in your school. Practice good sanitation and don’t be a litter bug.

- Do not leave your food wrappers and food scraps on lunch tables.
- Dispose of all trash, left-over food, food debris, food wrappers, and chip bags, etc. in trash containers.
- Do not drop candy wrappers and chip bags on the ground because they attract pests such as ants, cockroaches, rats, mice, and pigeons.
- Do not feed pigeons, cats, and other animals on school property.
- Be a good citizen and encourage your friends to help keep your school clean and free of pests.
- Don’t consume food in classrooms. Don’t hide candy wrappers in classrooms. Don’t store food in lockers.
How Can **Plant Managers** Help?

- Set a good example. Be proud of your school. Always practice good sanitation and encourage others to do so.
- Clean lunch tables promptly after each meal.
- Empty all trash containers promptly.
- Promptly place work orders (trouble calls) to M & O regarding needed pest exclusion work, leak and irrigation repairs, etc.
- Keep dumpster areas clean. Keep dumpster lids closed.
- Reduce clutter and storage on school grounds.
- Work with the principal to get food storage and clutter problems in classrooms resolved.
- Help to educate people about the direct relationship between poor sanitation and pest problems.
- Refer school employees to the District’s IPM web site which is [http://laschools.org/pom](http://laschools.org/pom)
How Can Custodial Staff help?

- Take pride in your school. Show that you care by practicing good sanitation at all times.
- Report food storage and sanitation problems in classrooms to the plant manager.
- Promptly clean up after meals and empty trash containers in a timely manner.
- Encourage students to put trash in trash containers.
- Do not overfill dumpsters and keep dumpster lids closed. Keep dumpster areas clean.
- When and where honey bees are a problem, do not put trash cans between lunch tables.
- Maintain clean work areas and hopper rooms.
- Promptly report pest problems to plant manager.
We **CAN** reduce the need for chemicals for pest control at schools if we do not provide pests easy access to our facilities on a daily basis.

Please assist the Pest Management staff in reducing pest problems at schools by doing your part and helping to pass this information on to others.
Thirty-three Pest of the Month Programs, covering a wide variety of pest issues and situations, are posted at the following District web site:

Please refer school employees to this web site for information on pests and pest problems at schools.

http://laschools.org/pom
Thank you for completing this basic training program on LAUSD IPM program.

Have a great, pest-free day.