



# PESPWire

The Quarterly e-bulletin of EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program

Spring, 2012

## World Stage IPM Solutions at the 7th International IPM Symposium

The 7th International IPM Symposium, titled "IPM on the World Stage - Solutions for Global Pest Challenges," will be held on March 27 - 29.

This year's event will take place at the Memphis Cook Convention Center in Memphis, Tennessee and will include around-the-town tours.

The three-day Symposium will include twenty-four concurrent sessions, 270 oral presentations and 200 poster presentations by pest management experts and entomologists from federal, state and local

governments, industry and academia. Presenters will discuss topics such as food safety, technology transfer, invasive species, bioenergy crops, remote sensing and GIS applications, and dozens of other cutting-edge IPM issues.

### OPP Director - Featured Speaker

The EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) Director Steven Bradbury is slated as a featured speaker along with experts from Bayer CropScience LP, Cornell University, entomologists, toxicologists, and plant pathologists from various groups.

In addition to information and networking sessions, the Symposium staff will announce the winners of international, national and local IPM achievement awards.

As they have in the past, this event will attract hundreds of participants from dozens of nations.

### Registration

Registration is now \$325 and includes admission, three continental breakfasts, Tuesday's award luncheon and two receptions.

To register and learn more about this exciting event, visit the [symposium website](#).

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## Participate in the 50th Poison Prevention Week

Poison Center - Call for Help!

Call your Poison Center



Click here to call your poison center

Poison centers are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Calls are free, confidential, and answered by a medical professional. We take calls in more than 150 languages. Don't guess, be sure!

Poison Prevention Tip of the Day:

National Poison Prevention Week raises awareness of poison prevention nationwide during the third full week of March every year.

The week is an opportunity to highlight the dangers of poisonings for people of all ages and promote community involvement in poisoning prevention. EPA encourages PESP members to help us raise awareness by educating your communities on this important issue. During this 50th anniversary of National Poison Prevention Week, we urge everyone to keep pesticides *(continued on page 2)*

(continued from page 1) and other household chemicals away from children, and to read all labels to minimize the potential dangers. Our message is simple - proper and safe storage, use, and supervision of all household products can substantially reduce exposure and potential poisonings among children.

### How to participate

1. Contact your local poison center (1-800-222-1222) to find out what activities they may already be planning in your area and how you can help. Ask to speak to an educator.



2. Refer to the National Poison Prevention Week Planner listed below to learn how to plan and promote your events and activities.

3. Post the **Poison Help Widget** (located below in the farthest left column) on your Web page. This widget is an online interactive poison prevention tool designed to add an interactive feature to your website, personal blog, Facebook or Twitter page. To get the widget on your site, visit [Poison Help](#).

4. Order the free poison prevention resource listed below to distribute to businesses, schools, and community groups, and encourage them to share this information with others.

### Poison Prevention Resources

The *Preventing Poisonings in the Home* web page provides vital information on maintaining a safe and low-risk living space, and references many resources that will help you inform your friends, family and neighbors stay safe. Visit [EPA's Poison Prevention page](#).

For information and resources about preventing poisonings, the Poison Help Line, and poison control centers, visit: [HRSA's Poison Help page](#).

Poison Prevention Week Planner: This planner provides ideas for organizing events and partnering with your local poison center to promote your events through media and community outreach. [Access the Planner](#).

Poison Help videos, audio messages, a ringtone, tips sheets, magnets and other resources are available at [Poison Help Resources](#).

Up and Away and Out of Sight is an educational program to remind families of safe medicine storage. For more information, visit [Up and Away and Out of Sight](#).

If you're planning a poison prevention event or education outreach activity, we'd love to hear from you. Let us know your plans! Email Darlene Dinkins at [dinkins.darlene@epa.gov](mailto:dinkins.darlene@epa.gov).

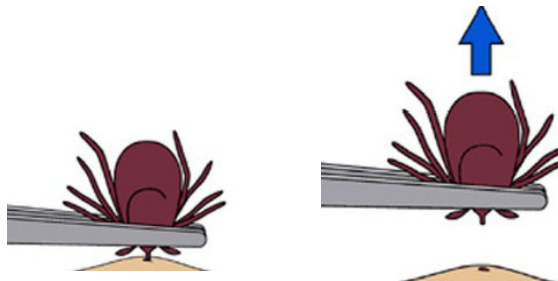
## Happy Spring! Remember to watch for ticks.

Spring is around the corner! Remember that tick eggs typically first hatch in April.

Ticks love humid environments and they often can be found near the edge of the woods.

### Use the following tactics to protect yourself from ticks:

1. Perform daily tick checks
2. Shower soon after being outdoors
3. Check your children for ticks
4. Check your clothing for ticks
6. Remove plants that attract deer
7. Provide vegetation-free play areas (keep playground equipment away from vegetation)



### How to remove a tick

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.
3. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

This original text and more helpful resources can be found at the [CDC's tick website](#).

See the CDC graphic to the left and the CDC's text below to learn how to safely remove a tick.

Learn more at the [CDC's website](#).

## PESP Member Spotlight:

# 5 Q's for the Salt Lake City School District

The Salt Lake City (SLC) School District has won EPA Energy Star and Top Performer awards, the EPA IAQ Tools for Schools Excellence Award, an International IPM Excellence Award, and has twice completed IPM Star Certification over the past decade.

The following interview features stories and advice from the district's Director of Facilities, Gregg Smith P.P.E., a school IPM expert and district-wide IPM inspiration.

### When and why did your team first begin to implement IPM in the SLC School District?

Before 2004, I believed that we were practicing IPM in the school district. But then I attended a children's health conference and realized that we did not understand IPM at all. At the conference I was a co-speaker with Dr. Marc Lame from Indiana University (School of Public and Environmental Affairs), and he convinced me to do a pilot program.

That trial proved to me that we could achieve equal or better pest management results without using pesticides. Before that, we had allowed routine spraying since before I can remember. When we realized there were other, safer ways to mitigate pest problems, we thought, "Well, why not?" It was a no-brainer.

### How did you and your district staff transition to IPM?

We built a foundation. Members of my staff team trained to be IPM Coordinators, and they truly became experts. They are responsible for training the head custodians of each school, and those custodians became the Site Coordinators who are responsible for weekly pest monitoring.

About once a year, we conduct an IPM training and everyone is involved, from head custodians to the three-hour sweepers.

We review what to look for, where to look for specific pests, and we discuss Pest Conducive Conditions. We emphasize that eliminating food, water and shelter in the environment will really help prevent pests. Food and water bring pests into the classroom, and clutter provides them with places to hide. We also teach the kitchen managers to dispose of cardboard boxes which are notorious for transporting in cockroaches.

The staff now understands that it is really their responsibility to make sure that everything is clean, and food is properly stored and tightly closed to minimize problems with cockroaches and mice.

The Coordinators also conduct regular IPM reviews for the faculty. The teachers have been very appreciative that they are no longer exposed to pesticides. We've gotten some great feedback. In the past, teachers and even custodians would bring in pesticide sprays from their homes to manage an infestation, and we have discouraged that habit, and encouraged monitoring,

regular cleaning, and prevention.

### How do you support monitoring and reporting?

When we first started with IPM in the district, we were supplying Pest Logs – paper forms that were placed in kitchens, classrooms, and any other area where pests might be seen. Once a week, a Coordinator would collect the logs, review any major issues, and consider what management steps to take.

I realized early on that Pest Logs weren't timely enough so we created a web-based monitoring and reporting tool that includes IPM education literature.

When we launched the program, called iPestManager, within the first ten minutes a teacher had reported a pest. Within a month, we had ninety reports, and I wondered "what are we doing wrong?"

However, I realized we just had to redefine a "new normal." From then on, we had relied exclusively on the tool to guide our efforts in controlling pests in our buildings.

*(Continued on page 5)*



Mr. Smith accepts the International IPM Excellence award on behalf of the Salt Lake City School District at the 6th Annual IPM Symposium in March of 2009.



# Bed Bug Management Research

People of all ages and professions, scientists, teachers, architects and students can be environmental stewards by taking steps to safely prevent pests in their homes and work buildings. To support community engagement in pest management, researchers from Rutgers and Purdue University worked together to raise the level of awareness about bed bug prevention and IPM control strategies.

Drs. Timothy Gibb and Changlu Wang led the bed bugs awareness effort, which was funded by an EPA grant for IPM initiatives. The two researchers and many supportive team members produced dozens of informational training products for various audiences including PowerPoint presentations, printable brochures and handouts, color photographs, and a twenty-minute video.

These products help consumers and citizens develop a strong understanding of bed bug monitoring and management techniques. Drs. Gibb and Wang also led the development of the bed bug online hub that houses these products, the Bed Bug IPM Technical Resources for Educators website. In addition to individual products, the website includes a bed bug exhibit that can be present-

ed at conferences, fairs, and schools to help promote bed bug IPM practices to students and home-owners.

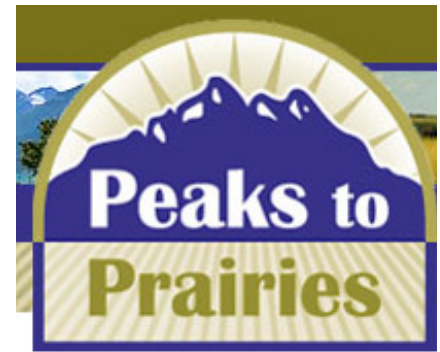
Utilizing the newly developed educational products, the research team provided seminars to more than twenty industry, research and community groups throughout the state of Indiana, including the Apartment Managers Association, the Apartment Owners Association, Healthy Homes Professionals, and the Lilly Nature Center.

In addition to the awareness initiative, Drs. Gibb and Wang conducted a six-month study on a 15-story apartment in Indianapolis with 223 one-bedroom apartments which were occupied by low-income elderly or disabled residents. The researchers studied three bed bug treatments: non-chemical, chemical, and a blended strategy.

According to the report, of the three strategies used, non-chemical proved to result in the highest bed bug elimination rate.

The authors concluded the study by stating that "...[w]ith an effective bed bug monitoring program, insecticide applications can be avoided and building-wide bed bug eradication can be achieved with no or reduced adverse impacts to the occupants."

For more information about bed bug monitoring and non-chemical control, visit the [Purdue University website – the Bed Bug IPM Technical Resources for Educations.](#)



## E-Learning Opportunity

Peaks to Prairies is a pollution prevention, or "P2," collaborative effort by Montana State University Extension and the EPA Region 8.

The organization runs a P2 information center that "encourages adoption of pollution prevention practices by citizens, small businesses, and local governments."

One Peaks to Prairies awareness tool is the Clean, Green and Healthy Schools 2012 Series which ran for six weeks and started in January 2012.

The series features topics such as the reduction of chemicals in schools, school composting, and indoor air quality. This is the third season of the Clean, Green and Healthy Schools webinar with two previous seasons having debuted in 2010 and 2011. [View this web series.](#)

Region 8 has also developed several other products such as a "Tools for Schools" Indoor Air Quality Action Kit, a toolkit on chemical cleanouts for schools, and information on asbestos in schools.

For more information about these products, visit the [Region 8 webpage.](#)



## ESB Interviewed on NBC's "Morning Drive"

In November 2011, representatives of the EPA's Environmental Stewardship Branch (ESB) and Water Division provided helpful tips to golfers during an interview with hosts of NBC's "The Morning Drive" talk show. The talk show interview was one of many NBC features in a month-long series of segments featuring a *Green is Universal* theme.

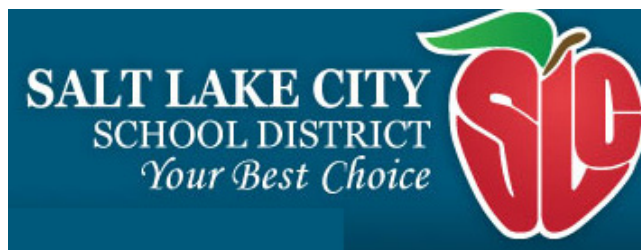
During the EPA segment, show hosts Erik Kuselias and Gary Williams asked about the recent surge of environmentalism within the golf industry, and what amateur golfers could do to be more environmentally friendly. EPA's Tom Brennan mentioned that golf industry leaders have been especially pro-active in the past fifteen years, and have supported the EPA's collaborative initiatives. Specifically, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), which runs



the Environmental Institute for Golf, helps train course managers on maintaining effective standards for energy and water use, reduced fertilizer use, and safe pesticide applications.

The two EPA guests on the show encouraged viewers to start conversations with their golf course superintendent to learn more about the environ-

mental management practices being implemented, to learn how those practices result in a smaller environmental footprint, and to apply the stewardship principles to their own personal lawn care. Watch the brief clip on [NBC's website](#).



*(Gregg Smith Interview - continued from page 3)*

### How do you and your team respond to infestations?

We have realized that you cannot have a sterile environment, and that only exists, maybe, in hospitals or inside a sealed container. Pests are part of the environment. If you think about your own home, you don't worry too much about the occasional fly in your kitchen. You take care of it. We try to promote that idea - that IPM involves prevention, understanding why the pest is there, what attracts it to your home, and that you can probably prevent many pests by doing a better job of housecleaning.

We do have a no-tolerance policy for several pests: mice, rats, bats, cockroaches, wasps and bed bugs. They require an immediate response because of the potential health danger they pose for students. So we have trained our teams to respond immediately to a report of those pests. And again, when we can, we support non-chemical management such as mint oil for wasps, trapping and re-locating bees nests.

Years ago, hundreds of bats would routinely invade one of our older high schools in October. I would get nervous every Fall worrying about this. The building is on the migration path of the Mexican Free-Tailed bat, and they would get in through openings in the higher parts of the building. Bats are a serious problem because they can carry rabies. This bat is an endangered species, so you must trap and relocate them. We sealed the high areas and put bat houses on the roof to give them an alternative, and by employing IPM practices, we've lowered the numbers from the hundreds to only three bats this year.

### How do you encourage all members of the school district and surrounding community to support the IPM initiative?

I am not a trained "PR" guy, but I make sure that we are constantly promoting our IPM program to the district, the public and to the local media. We have a regular IPM column in our monthly department newsletter, and we insist on annual training sessions. Most of our teachers and staff are aware of IPM because we continuously promote it. IPM is a part of a larger effort, our Green Schools Initiative, in which we promote the use of green cleaning products and methods, recycling, and efficient energy use. Our ultimate goal, and the guiding principle for our department, is to provide a safe and healthy environment for all our students and staff.

For more information, visit the [SLC School District Facilities Department website](#).



# EPA's Office of Pesticide Program News Briefs

## Webinar on 2012 SOPs - Update on Residential Pesticide Exposure Assessments

On Wednesday, February 8, 2012 the EPA announced the release of the revised 2012 Residential Standard Operating Procedures (Residential SOPs). These procedures provide instructions for estimating pesticide exposures, which is a requirement by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA). The new procedural document was reviewed by the FIFRA SAP throughout the 1990s, 2001 and most recently in 2009 to FIFRA.

Revisions include updated standard exposure assessment methods, numerous new scenarios such as misting systems and bed bug treatments, and more. In addition to technical and scientific review, the EPA incorporated information provided by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Authority.

In addition to updated information, the EPA's Pesticide Program new SOPs are described in "a straightforward and user-friendly fashion." View the revised [Residential SOPs](#).

## 2011 Exposure Factors Handbook Released

How do scientists estimate what chemicals we ingest when drinking water and milk, or eating fruits and vegetables? To answer this question and support environmental statisticians throughout the nation, the EPA's National Center of Environmental Assessment (NCEA) released the most recent edition of the Exposure Factors Handbook on October 3, 2011.

The NCEA has provided this tool since 1989 to help standardize statistical data used for exposure assessments. Information and guidelines in the [epa.gov/pestwise](http://epa.gov/pestwise)

Handbook help environmental health scientists reduce uncertainty, and verify differences in susceptibility, using factors such as lifestyle, family history, age and geographic locations.

To learn more about estimates of exposure during everyday activities such as cleaning the house, wearing makeup, and shining your shoes, view the [2011 Exposure Factors Handbook](#).

## IPM for Sustainable Agriculture

According to the IPM Institute of North America, eight major organizations are now using IPM as factor in certifying sustainable agriculture. Specifically, the Food Alliance, Rainforest Alliance, Forest Stewardship Council, Protected Harvest and four other groups have developed certifications for farms and ranches, and eco-labels for products from Canada, Mexico and more than twenty US states. Overall, these programs have certified 40.4 million US acres as sustainable, based in part on the implementation of IPM. For more information, visit the [IPM Institute of North America](#).

## Regulatory Cooperation Council releases Joint Action Plan

In December 2011, the Canadian and US governments announced the



Joint Action Plan which defines 29 regulatory initiatives. The Joint Action Plan is a product of the collaborative partnership titled the Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC), which was created in February 2011. The RCC is charged with "coordinating, simplifying and ensuring the compatibility of regulations" between our two nations.

Three environmental regulatory challenges included in the Joint Action Plan are: emissions regulation for light-duty vehicles, greenhouse gas emissions for locomotives, and the reduction of particulate matter, a significant cause of premature mortality. The EPA will be leading the Environment Work Plan, with support from the Department of State. View the [RCC's Joint Action Plan](#).



## Did you know...

In 1888, the first Inspector of the USDA's Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), Theobald Smith, helped to discover that cattle fever is caused by a micro-organism that is transferred from ticks to cattle. This was the first time in history that insect-to-mammal transmission was recognized.

According to the USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) the total cost of the research was approximately \$66,000 and resulted in \$40 million of benefits to the cattle industry. For more information visit the following link: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/timeline/>

## 2012 Stewardship Goals During Uncertain Times

Fiscal Year 2012 continues to present challenges that have become all too familiar throughout the public and private sectors. Diminishing financial resources are necessitating tough decisions on many programs, including those under the PestWise umbrella. The exact impacts on our programs have yet to be determined. We remain committed to advancing IPM and, as part of this effort, continue to explore efficiency savings and leveraging opportunities with our many partners.

EPA remains committed to advancing the implementation of verifiable IPM in our nation's schools. This will be an area of strong emphasis for the remainder of 2012 and beyond. The partnerships we cultivate, especially through PESP will be of great value in the coming year. We anticipate continued growth in PESP, especially with pest management professionals and schools.

With the selection of a permanent Environmental Stewardship Branch Chief expected in the near future, the balance of 2012 will present several challenges but many more opportunities. We look forward to working in partnership with you, our PESP members and stakeholders, to advance IPM and environmental stewardship.

## IPM in Buildings

At the beginning of 2012 the EPA released a guidance brochure for implementing IPM in buildings.

The guide reviews the health and economic benefits of IPM for building managers.

It also defines the roles of developers, pest management professionals, cleaning staff, landscapers and other building staff that will directly support IPM implementation. A helpful checklist is in the appendix to assist stakeholders in verifying IPM services.

Disease Control, and the National Pest Management Association, along with a number of key stakeholders, were consulted in the development of this document.

Please share this resource with your building management or others in your community who may be interested in implementing IPM in buildings. For more details refer to the USEPA Office of Pesticide Programs publication, IPM In Buildings (EPA 731-k-11-001), available at the [EPA's website](#).

The Housing and Urban Development, Centers for

## Request for Comments on Revised LEED Standards

The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has published the revised Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard for Existing Buildings, Operation and Maintenance. It includes a credit for Indoor Air Quality – Integrated Pest Management.

The standard is open for public comment and can be viewed at the [USGBC's webpage](#). Comments on this revised standard can also be submitted to [USGBC](#).

EPA worked to improve this standard with the USGBC, National Pest Management Association (NPMA), San Francisco Department of the Environment, and the Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO). In April, ASPCRO will be able to “opt in” to vote as a member of the USGBC, and balloting will begin in June to adopt this standard.

**Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP) members: please support the above revisions and send as many supportive comments as possible.**

We appreciate your feedback.





## PESP Member's Featured Photos: Audubon International



**Audubon International**, a PESP Gold Member, has provided the Spring 2012 PESPWire these three golf-course themed photos. The top left photo shows a course facilities team pulling up crab grass.

The photo to the lower left shows a common golf course pest - Canadian Geese. The third photo below shows a group from the 6th IPM Symposium touring the Eagle Springs Golf Course.

These photos are a fun preview to the next PESPWire which will feature an interview with experts from the Environmental Institute for Golf who will explain how to manage golf course pests using IPM.



### Happy Trails Tom!

We often purposefully avoid drawing attention to the managers and staff who run PESP so as not to divert the focus from the program itself. However, a recent change in leadership is noteworthy. For over five years, Tom Brennan was Chief of the Environmental Stewardship Branch, the group that administers PESP. At the end of 2011, Tom relinquished the PESP reins to become the Deputy Director of EPA's Science Advisory Board.

Everyone who had the opportunity to meet and work with Tom knows that he is passionate about the work of EPA, steadfast in his promotion of IPM, and a strong believer in PESP and the value of partnerships. We'll miss Tom's leadership and outgoing personality but wish him the very best in this new chapter of his professional life.

Frank Ellis is filling Tom's former position until a permanent Branch Chief is selected.





# Upcoming Events

## 2012 National Conference on Urban Entomology, May 20-23, Atlanta, GA,

The NCUE conference goal is “to facilitate open communication of information among pest management professionals and scientists in industry, academia and government. [Registration.](#)

## 10th Annual Fumigants and Pheromones International Conference - “Pest Management Around the World.”

May 16-18, Indianapolis, IN,

The event features Dr. Gebisa Ejeta, the 2009 World Food Prize Laureate from



**National Healthy Schools Day** is a great day for everyone to celebrate and promote healthy and green indoor school environments for all children and staff.

For ten years, parents, personnel, advocates, and agencies have held National Healthy Schools Day activities nationwide to highlight the importance of clean indoor air in schools. Visit the National Healthy Schools Day website for more information: <http://www.nationalhealthyschoolsday.org/>

National Healthy Schools Day is coordinated by Healthy Schools Network in cooperation with US EPA and the Council of Educational Facility Planners – International (CEFPI). It is the first day of School Building Week, and both events help promote the US EPA's IAQ (Indoor Air Quality) Tools for

Purdue University in a keynote address. Other speakers will address food safety, food storage, rodent management, and a hands-on technology workshop on day-three. **Registration:** Go to [Insects Limited Incorporated](#) for more information and call 1-317-896-9300 to register.

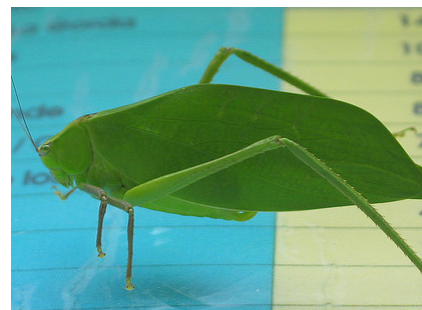
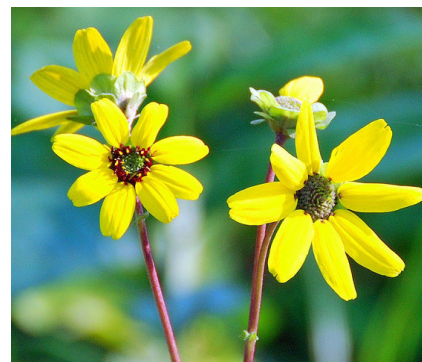
**The National Center for Healthy Housing** is excited to offer a free training opportunity targeted to Section 8 property owners and managers in the northeast. We have a professional trainer, Mike Boeck, who will give all 6 trainings. Each site is open to 25-30 participants. Questions? Please contact Amy McLean Salls, Director of Training and Community Initiatives, at 202-503-7153 or at [asalls@nchh.org](mailto:asalls@nchh.org).

Schools program. This program helps schools create and maintain healthy indoor learning environments by identifying, correcting and preventing common issues.

## Request for Comment: State School Environmental Health Guidelines

Please know that the US EPA Office of Children's Health Protection has just released the State School Environmental Health Guidelines for public comment.

Submission deadline for comments is April 13, 2012. For more information on the Environmental Guidelines and the RFA, visit [www.epa.gov/schools](http://www.epa.gov/schools)



# Request for Submissions

To submit a picture, please send your photo with a description (including photo credit) to: [pep.info@epa.gov](mailto:pep.info@epa.gov). Once all the photos are in, the PESPWire editorial staff will review the submissions and choose several to be featured for future editions. Thank you for your continued readership and we look forward to receiving your photos!

## Grant Opportunities

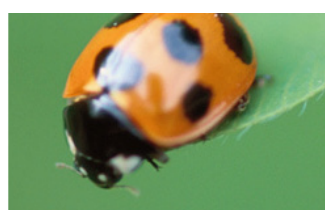
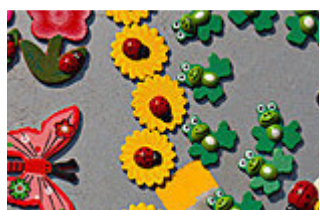
Grant Opportunities	
<b>Grant Title, Funding Agency and Funding Number</b>	Building Capacity to Implement EPA Voluntary Guidelines for K-12 State, Tribal and Territorial School Environmental Health Programs, US EPA, Office of Children's Health Protection, EPA-OCHP-01-2012
<b>Description</b>	<p>EPA is soliciting applications from eligible entities (as described in Section III.A) for projects to create, implement, and evaluate models for establishing comprehensive state, tribal and territorial school environmental health programs consistent with the draft K-12 School Environmental Health Program Guidelines released for public comment by EPA in February, 2012, and posted at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/schools">www.epa.gov/schools</a>. (Financial support for tribes to implement the guidelines will be made available through a separate funding mechanism).</p> <p>Applications may be submitted by States, tribes or territories that have already implemented schools environmental health programs, as well as States, tribes and territories that have not yet implemented such programs but can demonstrate a commitment to doing so. The application should fully describe the applicant's plan to develop or augment and implement basic elements of a state, tribal or territorial K-12, school environmental health program</p> <p>Total estimated funding: \$750,000. <b>Range of awards:</b> 5 cooperative agreements under this announcement, each award not to exceed \$150,000.</p>
<b>Closing Date</b>	April 10, 2012, 5:00 PM EDT
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">USEPA Funding Opportunity</a>
Grant Opportunities	
<b>Grant Title, Funding Agency and Funding Number</b>	Interregional research Project #4 Minor Crop Pest Management Program (IR-4), US Department of Agriculture, USDA-NIFA-SRGP-003674
<b>Description</b>	<p>The primary goal of the IR-4 program is to provide safe, effective and economical pest management solutions for growers of minor/specialty crops. IR-4 facilitates crop protection by providing expert assistance with product development and registration. IR-4 positively impacts the ability of research and extension personnel, producers, grower organizations, and others to provide a continuous supply of affordable minor/specialty crops to the public.</p> <p>IR-4 is the only publicly supported research program in the United States that provides this service. Successful applicants will demonstrate the capacity and commitment required to accelerate the registration of newer, reduced risk pest management tools; expedite access to these pest management tools for minor/specialty crop growers, and conduct efficacy research to identify new and more effective minor/specialty crop pest management solutions.</p> <p><b>Total estimated funding:</b> \$11,000,000.00. <b>Range of awards:</b> \$1,000,000.00 to \$4,800,000.00.</p>
<b>Closing Date</b>	March 20, 2012
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">USDA Funding Opportunity</a>



# Grant Opportunities

*(Continued from page 10)*

<b>Grant Title, Funding Agency and Funding Number</b>	Conservation Innovation Grants, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.
<b>Description</b>	The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), an agency under the United States Department of Agriculture, is announcing availability of Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Applications are accepted in all 50 states, Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Islands Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). NRCS anticipates that the amount available for support of this program in FY 2012 will be approximately \$20 million. Applications are requested from eligible government or non-governmental organizations or individuals for competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between 1 and 3 years in duration.
<b>Closing Date</b>	Although the proposal phase for the National CIG has passed (March 2), there are many State CIG still open. Examples: Alaska - due March 21. Michigan, Virginia - due March 30.
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">USDA Funding Opportunity</a>
<b>Grant Title, Funding Agency and Funding Number</b>	FY 2012 Tribal Pesticide Special Projects, US EPA, Region 5, EPA-R5-TPPP-2012
<b>Description</b>	The EPA Region 5, Pesticides Program Section, is soliciting pesticide special project proposals from eligible applicants for funding authorized under Section 20 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. §136r. In accordance with CFDA Number 66.716 and EPA's Assistance Agreement Competition Policy (EPA Order 5700.5A1), EPA is limiting eligibility in this competition to Federally-recognized Tribes, Tribal Organizations and Intertribal Consortia whose membership is made up exclusively of Federally-recognized Tribes to support pesticide projects in Indian Country. EPA intends that recipients will use funding provided under this Request for Proposals to help address the specific pesticide related concerns of their communities. The Agency will consider funding a broad range of projects that assess or reduce pesticide exposure risks to human health and the environment in Indian country. <b>Total estimated funding:</b> \$122,000. Maximum award amount per proposal is set at \$60,000. EPA Region 5 anticipates awarding 2 to 4 grants and/or cooperative agreements from this announcement, subject to the availability of funds, the quality of proposals received, and other applicable considerations.
<b>Closing Date</b>	April 18, 2012, 5:00 PM Central Standard Time (CST)
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">USEPA Funding Opportunity</a>



*Thank you for reading the Spring, 2012 PESPWire. We welcome questions, comments, and submissions.*