



IPM IN CHILDCARE

PROVEN STRATEGIES FOR EDUCATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

DEVELOPED BY SAFER PEST CONTROL PROJECT, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Illinois Childcare IPM Law: Effective July 2004

The Law impacts licensed childcare centers and requires:

- 1) IPM: Centers must use integrated pest management to control indoor pests;
- 2) Parents' Right-to-Know: Centers must notify parents, guardians and staff at least two days, but no more than thirty days before pesticide application; and
- 3) Reducing Exposure: Centers must take simple steps to limit children's exposure to pesticides.

STRATEGIES FOR INCREASING COMPLIANCE:

Communication & Coordination

Safer Pest Control Project created a Statewide Partnership for Childcare IPM with over twenty stakeholders.

Goal: Educate stakeholders about IPM and the law and utilize their expertise to craft a strategy to increase compliance.

Training, Resources & Motivation to Change

Our interactive workshops and training materials help centers understand IPM and the need for change.

Goal: Provide training and tools that promote change.

Systemic Change

We train childcare licensing representatives, sanitarians, childcare trainers and early education professors so they understand and support IPM.

Goal: Ensure leaders within the childcare community are informed and are advocates for safer pest control.

Policy Work/Support

Enforcement of the law is crucial for sustained systemic change; we work with legislators and state agencies to monitor compliance and training initiatives.

Goal: Create a self-sustaining, state-run IPM program for schools and childcares.

Pest Control Industry

PMPs increasingly recognize IPM as a sound business strategy – as well as 'the right thing to do'. We support IPM Certifications and Registries to help IPM-PMPs gain recognition for their work.

Goal: Create a market-based incentive that rewards IPM-PMPs for doing good work.

