

IPM Recognition

Award Category: Local IPM Program

Type of Nomination: Individual

Nominee Name of Individual or Group: Carrie Foss

Nominee Title (if applicable): Urban IPM Director

Nominee Affiliation (if applicable): Washington State University - Puyallup

Supporting Document:

Vita for Lifetime Achievement:

Improving economic benefits related to IPM adoption: Checked

Reducing potential human health risks: Checked

Minimizing adverse environmental effects: Checked

Brief Summary of Nominee's or Program's Accomplishments (500 words or less):

Ms. Foss serves as co-PI and director of the Western Region School IPM Working Group. The team has a network of 93 IPM implementers from 21 US states and 3 countries. Carrie coordinates numerous communications, classes, workshops, needs assessments, and program evaluation events annually. Ms. Foss organizes and instructors additionally serves as an instructor herself. Both state and tribal communities are served in response to requests for her assistance. Carrie collaborates actively and serves as a subject expert for in-state and western states working group members. She is a highly valued team leader and collaborates with a wide variety of stakeholder groups.

Carrie serves on the National School IPM 2015 Steering Committee, influencing national efforts and serving as a subject expert http://www.ipminstitute.org/school_ipm_2015/steering_committee.htm, and leads the EPA supported Washington State School IPM Enhancement Project which will model state-wide school IPM implementation influencing National efforts for years to come.

Carrie also serves as a co-PI on the Western Region Housing IPM Team. This group focuses on establishing good IPM practices within public housing, and sheltered accommodation environments. Ms. Foss has facilitated novel connections and contacts for our group resulting in partnerships that will support the translation of outreach materials into several important languages.

Carrie is an excellent manager as well as a superlative educator. She is a pleasure to work with and accordingly demand for her assistance nationally is always very high. The result has been the successful adoption and diffusion of the IPM innovation within schools, sheltered accommodation, and public housing environments. The resulting success and dramatic risk reduction is often tracked long-term, but is clearly evident soon after education or evaluation events occur. Her influences are far reaching and difficult to quantify, but without exception, stakeholders who communicate directly convey thanks for the opportunity to advance their expertise and knowledge, and confirm improvement of environmental health within their facilities.

Ms. Foss has been very successful in building partnerships and leveraging financial support from EPA, USDA, and tribal groups as well as environmental professional support agencies and other NGOs.

Describe the goals of the program being nominated; why was the program conducted? What condition does this activity address? (250 words or less):

Carrie's program was established to support the practice of IPM in schools and homes. The overarching goal to reduce pest and pesticide risks in schools and other sensitive environments.

Describe the level of integration across pests, systems and/or disciplines that was involved. (250 words or less):

Carrie manages the WSU Urban IPM Program in western Washington which includes the WSU IPM Certification Program for Landscape and Turf Professionals, and the Structural Pest Research and Demonstration Facility.

Describe the team building process; how did the program being nominated get partners involved? Education and awareness are essential in an IPM program. (250 words or less):

Carrie serves on several significant committees working to facilitate IPM efforts in her state, as part of a Western Region school IPM effort, as well as teams building a national infrastructure and support system. Carrie partners well with industry, State, Tribal and Federal agencies as well as broad teams of stakeholders pertinent to the effort.

What outcome describes the greatest success of the program?:

Washington State was selected by an EPA coordinated team of IPM experts to pilot a State-wide school IPM implementation effort. This will have national benefits. Washington State was selected largely due to the strong team Ms. Foss has established and the novel and innovative approaches used in Washington resulting in great long-term, sustainable success.

Provide evidence of change in knowledge, behavior or condition as a result of the program/individual. (250 words or less):

Washington State has the largest number of STAR certified schools, largely due to Carrie's efforts. This demonstrates actual changes in knowledge, and behavior and verifies high standards of IPM in schools.

Who or what should receive the most credit for the success of this program?

Ms. Carrie Foss

If selected, suggested Citation for Award Certificate (40 words or less):

IPM Achievement Award is awarded to Ms. Carrie Foss, who has made creative contributions of outstanding significance to the field of urban IPM.