

WHAT IS IPM?



IPM is a process for achieving long-term, environmentally sound pest suppression by reducing the food, water, living space and access used by pests.

By eliminating potential food, water and living space for pests, and sealing up their entry routes into buildings, the need for pesticides is greatly reduced. Pesticides are used only when a confirmed pest problem is present. Then, the least hazardous pesticide effective for control of a specific pest is applied using precision, targeted treatments in areas not contacted or accessible to the families, tenants, and visitors.



For more information on pesticide, pesticide poisoning prevention, or IPM check out the following:

- EPA's Pesticide Program website at www.epa.gov/pesticides or www.epa.gov/pestwise/index.html
- National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378 <http://npic.orst.edu/pest.htm>
- The IPM Institute of North America <http://ipminstitute.org/>
- University of Arizona Urban IPM <http://cals.arizona.edu/urbanipm/index.html>



INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) AT WORK OR HOME



City of Phoenix

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HOW TO IMPLEMENT IPM

Is your family or office bugged by pests like ants, spiders, cockroaches, termites, or mice? You're not alone. You can effectively control or kill pests when you take action to keep them out, starve them out, and dry them out. Like humans, pests need three critical elements to survive: food, water, and shelter. By following three simple and effective steps, you can protect your family's health and safety while controlling annoying pests.

KEEP THEM OUT

By keeping insects and rodents out of your home, you can prevent them from ever becoming a problem. Rodents spend most of their lives hiding. They love cracks, and can squeeze just about anywhere. Think smart, and they can't move in on you:

- Seal cracks and openings along baseboards, behind sinks, and around pipes and windows.

- Repair holes in door and window screens to prevent insects and other pests from entering a home.
- Check boxes and bags for insects before bringing them into a home.
- Clean up clutter, including stacks of newspapers, paper bags, and cardboard boxes. These make good hiding places for pests.
- Set traps to control rats and mice. If you use baits, make sure they are in a tamper-resistant bait station made of durable plastic or metal, and place in an area where children and pets cannot touch them.

STARVE THEM OUT

Pests will eat just about anything, but they might leave you alone if they don't have easy access to food:

- Seal up boxes and bags of food. Insects love cardboard boxes and can climb into these items with ease.
- Store open food such as cereal, flour, or sugar, in glass or hard plastic containers.
- Immediately clean up spills and leftover crumbs. Pests love free food left out in the open.
- Don't walk around the house while eating. Meals and snacks should be eaten at a table.

- Clean dirty dishes right away. Pests want whatever is left of your meals.
- Keep a tight lid on trash, and empty it often. It may be trash to you, but pests see it as dinner. Place trash cans far away from a back door entrance.
- Don't leave pet food out overnight. Food can stir up pests' appetites.

DRY THEM OUT

Although roaches can live up to one month without food, without water roaches can die in a week's time:

- Always drain dish water from a sink. Because roaches can swim, a sink full of water might become the site of a roach pool party.
- Wipe water and other spilled liquids off the counter as soon as you first see it. Puddles are roach magnets.
- Fix or report leaky faucets, radiators, dishwashers, and washing machines.
- Empty excess water in flower pots and plant stands. A drop of water can be all a roach needs to feel satisfied.

