

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New IPM Course for Pest Management Professionals

Berkeley, CA— The UC Berkeley Center for Environmental Research and Children's Health (CERCH) announces the release of a new training course for California's licensed pest management professionals serving schools and child care. You can go directly to the course here:

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/training/school-and-child-care-ipm.html>

New changes to the Healthy Schools Act in 2015 strongly encourage schools and child care providers to use least toxic methods to control pests. Called integrated pest management, or IPM, these methods aim to prevent pests. When there is a problem, pesticides are used as a last resort, and, baits or traps are preferred over sprays and foggers.

The law puts new training requirements on pest control companies serving schools and childcare centers. To help Pest Management Professionals comply with the Healthy Schools Act, we have developed a free online CEU course for licensed pest management professionals: *Providing Integrated Pest Management Services in California Schools and Child Care*.

If you work with a pest control company, encourage them to take the new FREE online continuing education (CE) course. All licensed pest control companies must take CE courses to keep their license, and this free course provides 2 CE hours and important information about schools and child care.

ABOUT THE IPM COURSE

This course is for pest management professionals (PMPs) but anyone, licensed or not, can take the course. This course will help PMPs provide IPM services in schools and child care centers, comply with the Healthy Schools Act, and expand their business. A directory of licensee's who have completed the course will be kept on the CERCH website (www.cerch.org/ipmtrainedpmps). The course is FREE and was developed by UC Berkeley, UC IPM, with input and review by DPR and Pest Control Operators of California.

Course website: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/training/school-and-child-care-ipm.html>

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