

Common Issues Arising from Facility Audits

Iowa School Integrated Pest Management Pilot Program 2001 – 2002

The following items were frequently noted on facility audits made for pilot school buildings:

- 1. Replace rubber gaskets, close gaps around frames with caulk, and repair screens for outside doors and windows.**
- 2. Seal access to structural voids under hand and kitchen sinks (water/drain pipes), around toilet fixtures (water pipe or around base), around sewer cleanout access plates, under darkroom sinks, and in custodial closets (water, drain, and electrical).**
- 3. Seal access to pipe chase around water/drain pipes, electrical conduits, or improperly fitted doors.**
- 4. Caulk around porcelain sink and toilet fixtures in restrooms, locker rooms, and classrooms, around kitchen sinks, along countertops in classrooms and kitchen, and along overhead hoods in kitchen.**
- 5. Replace floor tiles in classrooms, halls, kitchen, and restrooms.**
- 6. Install brushes on bottom of interior doors (entry/air curtain, kitchen pantry, custodial areas, and concessions) to prevent pest entry.**
- 7. Eliminate clutter to prevent pest harborage. The key sites were custodial areas, kitchen food pantry, under sinks in classrooms, teacher and administrative offices, and storage areas (art, band, classroom, drama, physical education, science, and “general”). Free-standing items should be stored off of the floor (with adequate space for cleaning or visual inspection) and away from the walls.**
- 8. Decrease cardboard box storage. If boxes are used to store items long-term, close boxes, label, and seal with packing tape.**
- 9. Improve food storage practices to prevent pest problems. This included staff desks, break rooms, family and consumer sciences rooms, kitchen, student lockers, special education classrooms, and concession stands. This includes human and pet food.**
- 10. Store disinfectants and other pesticides in locked areas. These products should either be locked in a special cabinet or the door to**

the room should be locked at all times. Door into this area should be placarded as per OSHA regulations.

- 11. Store chemical reagents for science classes in a locked room or cabinet.**
- 12. Improve facility cleanliness. This included family and consumer sciences classrooms, kitchen surfaces (floor, walls, ceilings, and equipment), cafeteria, custodial areas, concessions areas including soft drink dispensers, and laundry facilities.**
- 13. Repair leaky water pipes. This was noted in custodial areas, kitchens, and classrooms. In some cases, the moisture accumulation led to mold buildup.**
- 14. Improve pop can/bottle recycling efforts. Decrease spent container storage and regularly replace cardboard recycling containers.**