USING IPM TO MANAGE COCKROACHES
WHAT IS IPM?

IPM is a commonsense approach to managing and reducing pests & pesticides. It is cheaper and healthier for people and the environment than conventional pest control (which relies on regular pesticide applications).
IPM IS NOT...

- Routine spraying of pesticides by staff or pest management company
- Out of sight, out of mind pest control
Prevention

Means removing conditions that allow cockroaches to thrive in your center

Mop up water to deny roaches a drink

Get rid of clutter to deny roaches a place to hide and eat

Install door sweeps to deny roaches entrance into your center

Get rid of food, water, shelter, and access

Good sanitation is key to preventing cockroaches
1. Where are the cockroaches?
   - Use monitoring traps
   - Look for cockroach evidence
   - Have there been cockroach sightings?

2. Is control necessary based on the number of cockroaches observed?

3. Recordkeeping is essential
   - A monitoring program is only as useful as its recordkeeping system
   - Keep records of monitoring information, decisions made, actions taken, and results
Identify your cockroach

• The first step is to accurately identify the problem species
• Effective management tools vary with species
• Diagnostic tables in UCIPM books (can be ordered online)
• The UC IPM Web site has lots of identification tools
  http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu
• UC Cooperative Extension offices: biologists can help with ID
• Agricultural Commissioner’s offices/CDFA: agricultural biologists often have ID experience
In most cases, a single roach outside is okay, below the level where you need to do something (you haven’t reached the action level). In a kitchen, you need to monitor to make sure you don’t have more roaches.

A whole bunch of roaches? In a kitchen, you need to do something (you’ve reached the action level) but what about outside? Probably not but you should make sure your exclusion methods are working to keep them out of your building.
How to improve your child care center to eliminate the potential for roach problems:

- Get rid of clutter like old paper & cardboard. They provide food and shelter for roaches.
- Remove conditions that favor roaches; fix water leaks and sweep up food crumbs.
- Install door sweeps & seal cracks in baseboards and cupboards to keep roaches out.
Cockroaches: PREVENT The Problem

**ACCESS**
- Seal cracks in cupboards and baseboards

**FOOD**
- Store food in tight-fitting containers
- Rinse recyclables
- **Empty trash cans at the end of every day**
- Keep surfaces clean and dry

**WATER**
- Fix plumbing leaks

**SHELTER**
- Reduce clutter, like cardboard boxes
Cockroaches: FIX The Problem

- You MUST identify the type: indoor resident or outdoor invader?
- Track roaches with sticky traps
- Remove food and water sources
- Vacuum cracks and crevices to get rid of crumbs
- Get rid of cardboard boxes
- Remove old paper signs/art on walls
- Use bait stations and bait gels, not sprays. Pesticide sprays will make them scatter; only a few die.
Consequences of Not Managing Cockroaches

Allergies and asthma: The presence of cockroaches can trigger allergic reactions, such as skin rashes, and asthma, especially in children. Cockroach feces, saliva, eggs and moult indoors are the allergens.

They can get into and contaminate food with bacteria (e.g. *Salmonella*), causing food spoilage and disease.
5 WAYS TO GET RID OF PESTS WITHOUT A PESTICIDE

1. Get organized
2. Get rid of cardboard
3. Keep all food in sealed, plastic containers
4. Seal all doors, windows, cracks and crevices
5. Clean deep

Adapted from the IPM Technical Resource Center
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
IPM FOR COCKROACHES

DPR’s IPM for Cockroaches in Child Care Centers Fact Sheet

UC IPM Pest Note for Cockroaches
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7467.html

University of Florida School IPM for Cockroaches
http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/newtp3.htm