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Child Care Centers and Pest Management

The mission of the New York State Integrated Pest Management Program at Cornell University is to help you prevent pest problems and reduce or eliminate pesticide use in your center. After all, pests and pesticides both pose greater risks to children, with their rapidly growing bodies, than they do to adults. But in order to meet your needs, we'd like your input. By completing this 10 minute survey, you can help us plan for new programs and materials to help you deal with the issues at the top of your must-solve list.

To show our appreciation for your help, we'll enter your childcare center into a drawing for one of many free site assessments by a Cornell University pest-management expert.

Please answer each question as best you can. If you need to check on information, you will have the option of editing your response at a later time. Thank you for your time!

*** Required**

About You and Your Center

1. I am the (please check all that apply) *

- Owner
- Director
- Associate or Assistant Director
- On-site Supervisor
- Teacher, Teacher Associate, or Caregiver

- Cook or Kitchen helper
- Custodian
- Other:

2. Do you rent or own your child care space? *

- Rent
- Own
- Other:

3. How would you describe your child care space? *

- Standalone building
- Attached building (shared walls such as in a strip mall)
- In a building shared with other occupants (such as an office building, church, or school)
- Other:

4. Have you had any indoor or outdoor plant, insect, or other animal pest complaints at your center within the past three years? *

	Yes	No	Unsure	Not Applicable
By you	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By parents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By other building occupants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Have there been complaints concerning pesticide use at your center within the past three years? *

	Yes	No	Unsure	Not applicable
By you	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By parents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
By other building occupants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Common Pests

Pests are living organisms that bother or harm people. They include plants, such as poison ivy; insects, such as cockroaches; and other animals, such as mice.

If there are no "Other" pests, simply choose "Not Seen".

6. What INDOOR pests have you seen or have been reported in and outside the child care center, and how often, in the past three years? Check all that apply. *

	Not Seen	Seen Once	Seen Every Year	Seen Multiple Times a Year	We can't get rid of it!	Don't Know
Ants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bats	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bed bugs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cockroaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Not Seen	Seen Once	Seen Every Year	Seen Multiple Times a Year	We can't get rid of it!	Don't Know
Fleas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flies (house flies, fruit flies, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Head lice	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rodents (mice, rats)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spiders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stored food pests (beetles, moths)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Termites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If applicable, please list Other INDOOR pests here:

7. What OUTDOOR pests have you seen or have been reported in and outside the child care center, and how often, in the past three years? Check all that apply. *

	Not Seen	Seen Once	Seen Every Year	Seen Multiple Times a Year	We can't get rid of it!	Don't Know
Ants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bees, hornets, wasps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Not Seen	Seen Once	Seen Every Year	Seen Multiple Times a Year	We can't get rid of it!	Don't Know
Birds (house sparrows, pigeons, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fleas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flies (house flies, gnats, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Geese	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lawn grubs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mosquitoes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poison ivy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rodents (mice, rats)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spiders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ticks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weeds (clover, dandelions, plantain, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife (bats, moles, raccoons, squirrels, skunks, snakes, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If applicable, please list Other OUTDOOR pests here:

Pest Management Responsibility

Pest management policies, communication, and a range of biological, organic, cultural, mechanical, and chemical options for pest problems.

8. Who makes pest management decisions? Please check all that apply. *

- Landlord or employee of landlord
- Owner
- Director
- Child care staff
- Pest control company
- Landscape company
- Nobody (no pest management happens)
- Don't know
- Other:

9. Who performs pest management INSIDE the building? Please check all that apply. *

- Landlord or employee of landlord
- Owner
- Director
- Child care staff
- Pest control company
- Landscape company
- Nobody (no pest management happens)
- Don't know
- Other:

10. Who performs pest management OUTSIDE the building (lawn and landscape)? Please check all that apply. *

- Landlord or employee of landlord
- Owner

- Director
- Child care staff
- Pest control company
- Landscape company
- Nobody (no pest management happens)
- Don't know
- Other:

11. Are you satisfied with the level of pest management at your center? *

- Yes
- No
- Other:

12. Where does the individual(s) responsible for pest management get their information? Please check all that apply. *

- Cornell University (including Cornell Cooperative Extension and the NYS IPM Program)
- State agencies, (Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Dept. of Education, Office of Child and Family Services)
- US EPA
- Regional Child Care Council
- Home and Garden Center
- Trade groups and journals
- Pest control company
- Advocacy groups
- Pesticide applicator courses
- Other:

Pest Management Practices

For techniques and products - if there are no "Other", simply choose "Never".

13. What pest management strategies are in place to deal with

pests? Check all that apply *

- We have a written pest management policy.
- Pest inspections are conducted regularly (e.g., weekly, monthly)
- Staff are educated about pest issues, such as head lice or ticks.
- Parents are educated about pest issues, such as head lice or ticks.
- Parents are notified when a pesticide application will take place at the center.
- All pesticides, if used, are applied by a Certified Commercial Pesticide Applicator.
- Recordkeeping
- Other:

14. How often are the following pest management techniques or products used for INDOOR pests? *

	Routinely Scheduled	Quarterly or a Few Times a Year	Only When Needed	Never	Don't Know
Sanitation and housekeeping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Building modifications (door sweeps, sealing crevices, screens)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mechanical rodent traps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sticky traps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vacuuming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sanitation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Insecticidal dusts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Routinely Scheduled	Quarterly or a Few Times a Year	Only When Needed	Never	Don't Know
Bait station for insect pests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bait station for rodents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Steam cleaning/heat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Total release insecticidal foggers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Baseboard spraying	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Crack/crevice applications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If applicable, please list Other INDOOR pest management techniques or products here:

15. How often are the following pest management techniques or products used for OUTDOOR pests? *

	Routinely Scheduled	Quarterly or a Few Times a Year	Only When Needed	Never	Don't Know
Regular inspections	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Raised mower height on lawn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Routinely Scheduled	Quarterly or a Few Times a Year	Only When Needed	Never	Don't Know
Fertilization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Watering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aeration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Seeding grassy (and bare areas that are supposed to be grass)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mulch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticide application(s) for weeds (weed and feed, Round Up, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticide application(s) for insects (wasp and hornet spray, grub control, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If applicable, please list Other OUTDOOR pest management techniques or products here:

Pesticide Application

Pesticides are chemicals designed to kill pests. They include insecticides ("bug sprays", bug bombs, granular grub control, etc.), herbicides ("weed killers", weed and feed products), and rodenticides (mouse and rat poisons).

If there are no "Other", simply choose "Does Not Apply Pesticides".

16. Who applies pesticides at the center? Check all that apply. *

	Does Not Apply Pesticides	Applies Indoors	Applies Outdoors	Applies Indoors and Outdoors
Landlord or employee of landlord	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Owner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Director	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child care staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pest control company	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nobody (no pesticides applied)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Don't know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If applicable, please list Other pesticide applicators here:

17. Have you requested an emergency exemption under the Child Safe Playing Fields Act? *

- Yes
- No
- I don't know what this is

Interest in Integrated Pest Management

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a proactive approach that uses a wide range of methods to solve pest problems while minimizing risks to people, property, and the environment.

18. The NYS IPM Program is interested in providing information to child care staff to promote the health and safety of children and staff, reduce liability, and provide guidance to help staff take a leadership position with regards to pests and pest management. How would you like this information? Check all that apply. *

- Workshops or Seminars
- Webinars
- Videos
- Consultation with a Cornell IPM expert on pest issues in our facility
- Web site
- Factsheets
- Brochures
- Email newsletter
- Blog
- Educational materials for staff
- Educational materials for parents
- Educational materials for the landlord or building manager
- Lesson plans for children
- Other social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.
- Listserve
- I am not interested in learning about IPM at this time
- Other:

Use of Information

Information gathered in this survey will be used solely to evaluate the educational needs about pest management in the child care industry in New York. The data collected will not be shared or published with identifying information. The collective results will be published as a whole, representing trends in the industry. Your response will help improve child care industry access to Cooperative Extension experts and resources and is greatly appreciated.

Please provide your License/Registration ID # *

The NYS Office of Child and Family Services provides all regulated child care providers with a License/Registration ID number. Providing this information helps us keep the survey shorter while also enabling us to assess trends across the state.

Thank you for completing this survey. If you would like to enter the raffle for one of the five on-site assessments and recommendations from Cornell University experts, please provide your email address.

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