Questions & Answers

Q. How does IPM differ from traditional pest control?
A. IPM employs an approach that requires more participation by the homeowner to achieve long-term control.

Q. Does IPM eliminate the use of pesticides?
A. An effective IPM program may include the use of pesticides. However, the amount needed will likely be reduced.

Q. When pesticides are used, how are they applied?
A. The appropriate use and application of pesticides are spelled out by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and others, and will vary according to your circumstance. Your pest control technician will tell you where and how pesticides will be applied in or near your home.

By their nature, many pesticides may pose some risk to humans, animals, or the environment because they are designed to kill or otherwise adversely affect living organisms. At the same time, pesticides are often useful because of their ability to control disease-causing organisms, insects, weeds, or other pests. The pesticide label is your guide to using pesticides safely and effectively. It contains pertinent information that you should read and understand before you use a pesticide product.

Always Read the Label First
**IPM Integrated Pest Management**

**Purpose**

NHA Pest Control Program provides extermination services for Public Rental Tenants. All units will be inspected to determine the severity of the any pest problem and the appropriate treatment will be administered along with any follow-up treatments and monitoring.

The NHA Pest Management strongly advocates the Integrated Pest Management method, which calls for the residents to maintain a neat, tidy, and clean environment, both inside the house and in the yard. The use of pesticides is the last alternative but is sometimes a necessary treatment for the elimination of pests.

**IPM Steps**

1. Inspections and Monitoring—Identify the pest present and determine the source of the problem.

   **Positive ID**

   Positive and accurate identification is needed to make a thorough evaluation of the problem and an appropriate recommendation for control. Knowledge of the pest biology and habits of the pest is necessary.

   2. Education—Involves teaching the customer how to store susceptible materials to lessen the chance they can be bitten by the pest.

   3. Physical, Cultural and Sanitation—Remove the unnecessary food sources, ensure the building is a tightly sealed off to exclude insects, rodents that gain access into your home and can lead to an infestation.

   - Food (nourishment)
   - Water (proper moisture level) and
   - Harborage (an appropriate habitation in which to live)

   4. Mechanical /Non-Chemical controls—The use of insect trays to capture specimens for ID or for monitoring the control program or the use of pheromones traps for monitoring.

   5. Chemical controls – Use as needed to eliminate those pests still wandering in the structure after the sources are eliminated.

   6. Program evaluation—Pest population levels must be continually monitored. The customer must also be advised on matters of sanitation and how to prevent new pest problems from becoming established.

Pests and rodents aren’t simply a nuisance - they can severely affect your health and the health of your family. This is why bug and insect prevention is critical in protecting your home and any other place where human beings live, work or play from a pest infestation.

Here are some general tips to prevent household pests and rodents from entering your home:

- Seal cracks and holes on the outside of the home including entry points for utilities and pipes.
- Keep tree branches and shrubbery well trimmed and away from the house.
- Remove food sources; Clean up spilled food. Inspect incoming foods and packaging.
- Store garbage in sealed containers and dispose of it regularly.
- Replace weather-stripping and repair cracks around baseboards, foundation, windows and walls; Especially in basements.
- Store fire wood at least 20 feet away from the house and five inches off the ground.
- Inspect use and new furniture. Vacuum carpeting and furniture is the safest method.
- Properly vaccinate and deworm your pets to reduce internal and external parasites.
- Call a qualified pest professional for additional advice and treatment if necessary.