



INTERGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

2023-2024

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a holistic approach to landscape and grounds management aimed at minimizing the ecological impact associated with conventional pest control practices. The University of Houston Main Campus's pest management program is designed to strike a balance between effective control, cost-efficiency, public health, and environmental stewardship. Our procedures, implemented through contracted services (Versacor for pest management and Brightview for landscaping), prioritize responsible and environmentally-conscious methods.

Pest Management

- **Pest Prevention:** Tailored recommendations for structural and procedural adjustments to proactively deter infestations. This includes exclusion techniques, deterrents, and routine maintenance schedules.
- **IPM Work Plans:** Comprehensive written IPM work plans are developed before any contracted pest control activity. These plans are structured based on the specific scope of work.
- **Non-Pesticide Methods:** Utilization of precise, low-impact techniques such as trapping and exclusion when possible.
- **Chemical Awareness:** Current labels, brand names, and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are maintained and reviewed to assess pesticide hazards.

Landscaping

- **Grounds Monitoring:** Regular and systematic inspection of landscaped areas to evaluate ecological health and the effectiveness of pest control measures.
- **Mechanical Management:** Use of hand tools and manual labor to minimize herbicide applications and promote sustainability when possible.
- **Licensing:** The application of fertilizers and herbicides is exclusively conducted by State-Licensed Applicators.

At the University of Houston, we are committed to employing the least impactful methods, whether chemical or manual, whenever feasible. Our work is guided by economic thresholds, considerations for worker and public health, and the safety of property and the environment.