

## WHAT IS IPM?

IPM stands for Integrated Pest Management, which focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage by managing the ecosystem. IPM uses a combination of methods such as:

- Biological controls such as the use of beneficial insects to control damage
- Cultural controls like proper pruning
- Mechanical and physical controls such as traps for rodents or using mulch for weed management
- Chemicals when needed in combination with other approaches.

The Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership is focusing on three primary steps involved in IPM: Using less-toxic pesticides, attracting and keeping beneficial bugs in your garden, and choosing attractive, disease-resistant plants.

Following all three steps will help you manage pests in a healthy way, in addition to contributing to less toxic-chemicals washing into our waterways.

### WATER CONNECTS US ALL.

Reducing pollution into our waterways and oceans begins with us. We are all connected in that we all can play a part in the prevention of toxic chemicals reaching our ecosystem. It begins with preventative measures such as Integrated Pest Management. By following the three simple steps in this guide, you can be the smaller piece that adds to the bigger picture... cleaner, healthier waterways.

The Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership is a multi-jurisdictional program made of Sacramento County and incorporated cities of Sacramento, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt and Rancho Cordova to raise awareness about urban runoff pollution prevention.

Learn how to manage pests the natural, healthier way today. Call 916-808-4H20 (4426) today for more information on how you can manage your garden pests.



STORMWATER QUALITY PARTNERSHIP

## SOME JEEPERS ARE KEEPERS.





Visit beriverfriendly.net for a list of gardenfriendly bugs, plants and other garden tips. Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership 916-808-4H20 (4426) Follow us on Facebook

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Adult ladybugs and their larvae eat aphids, which are one of the most destructive pests in the eyes of gardeners and farmers.

#### OH, REALLY?

Bees are pollinators, which increase productivity of food crops from apples to zucchini. Yum!

#### WHO KNEW?

Dragonflies feed on mosquitos, gnats, flies, termites and ants.

#### YOU DON'T SAY?

Green Lacewing larvae prey on aphids, leafhoppers, mites, psyllids, thrips, whiteflies and the eggs of insects. They help control pests that attack fruits and vegetables.

## LESS IS MORE.

Use less-toxic or non-toxic alternative methods of pest and weed control to keep your gardenfriendly bugs on your side and unwanted bugs under control.

Research non-toxic alternative methods online or visit your local garden center or hardware store for eco-friendly options.

Using less-toxic pesticides in your yard is important for a healthy garden, beneficial bugs, our waterways...and our ecosystem as a whole.

# ATTRACTION IS ESSENTIAL.

Sometimes, a good defense is a natural defense. Attract and keep beneficial bugs in your yard and let them do the work for you. Plant flowers and shrubs that attract bugs you want in your garden. This will promote a healthy balance of garden friends close by.

Herbs like cilantro, dill, fennel, caraway and flowers, such as scented geraniums attract beneficial bugs, such as ladybugs.

And avoid pesticide use, as they kill beneficial bugs, and can cause a worse bounce back of pest populations. Beneficial bugs eat destructive bugs, resulting in less use of chemical pesticides. Less pesticide use means less chemical runoff into our waterways and ecosystems.

## CHOOSE PLANTS WISELY.

Select pest and disease-resistant plants. Plants and herbs such as basil, chamomile, lavender, peppermint and spearmint repel garden pests. Disease resistant plants are often tagged at nurseries but some to look for are gardenias, azaleas, common lilac and sunshine ligustrum.

It's important to choose plants that are well adapted in your area at your local nursery, as well as properly placing them in your yard, which leads to naturally healthier and more pest-resistant plants.



Need help identifying less-toxic pesticides? Visit ourwaterourworld.org today.



Visit Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership on Facebook for updates and healthy gardening tips. ¢

Fragrant herbs attract beneficial bugs and those herbs are delicious to eat. Yum!