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| **Initial Effective Date** | mm/dd/yyyy |
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| **Authorized/Reviewed By** | Individual or Committee Name |
| **Standard** | 22VAC40-61-410 |

# Definition (define the infection control practice)

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), integrated pest management (IPM) is a science-based, common-sense approach that provides tools and strategies designed to provide a safe, sanitary, and comfortable environment for participants, staff and the public; free of insects and vermin.

# Purpose (why this policy/procedure is important)

IPM uses a variety of pest management techniques that focus on pest prevention, pest reduction, and the elimination of conditions that lead to pest infestations. IPM simply means (1) do not attract pests, (2) keep them out, and (3) get rid of them (if you have them) with the safest, most effective methods to protect the health and wellness of participants and staff in the adult day center.

# Responsibility (who is responsible for following this policy/procedure)

All staff and volunteers have responsibilities under the following policy and procedure. Role/title in center has responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the IPM policies and procedures.

# Policy

All staff will follow CDC recommendations for pest control as outlined in the procedures below, as appropriate to their job roles and responsibilities.

# Procedure

## Inspection and Monitoring

* Insert the role/title of center staff responsible will perform routine examination of indoor and outdoor areas insert a timeframe (e.g., daily or weekly) to identify:
  + Evidence that pests and vermin are present.
  + Dust, droppings, wood particles, or other evidence or signs that pests could be present.
  + If conditions exist that could promote pest and vermin infestations.
* Professional pest control monitoring services are provided by a reputable licensed and insured company.

## Elimination of Conditions that Attract Pests

* Wash items used for cooking and eating immediately after they are done being used.
* Store food and water in containers made of thick plastic, glass, or metal with a tight-fitting lid.
* Take out trash and other waste daily and place in a covered trash can or dumpster away from center entrances.
* Monitor the exterior of the building and remove any trash or debris and place it in an appropriate covered container.
* Monitor internal areas of the center and ensure that conditions are clean, and no clutter is present.
* Ensure that all spills are cleaned promptly.
* Remove any standing water. Promptly identify and fix any plumbing leaks.
  + Include ceilings in visual inspections for water intrusion or damage, especially drop ceilings and areas with overhead sprinkler systems.
* Whenever feasible, remove supplies from corrugated cardboard boxes or shipping containers before storing to remove external contaminants and discourage pests.

## Keeping Pests Out of Indoor Environments

* When practical keep windows shut and sealed.
* When windows need to be open for ventilation, ensure that screens are in place and are in good condition.
* Do not prop exterior doors and limit the amount of time that exterior doors are open.
* Cover or close all holes in the center walls, ceilings, and floors.
* If the center accepts donations of clothing/blankets, require that all donations be prewashed and sealed in a plastic bag. Store clothing in bags and inspect carefully when bags are opened. Carefully inspect any donations of craft supplies and books for any evidence of pests.

## Use of Traps and Application of Pesticides

# Pesticides and traps will be used and applied by a reputable licensed and insured company or applied per their instructions.

## Ensuring Staff and Participant Safety

* If pests are identified in the center:
  + Participants and staff will be relocated away from the affected area whenever possible.
  + Participants and staff will be restricted from areas during and after the application of pesticides as necessary.
  + Insert additional center-specific plans, this might be moving participants to a different room or closing off common areas that are affected by infestation.
* If pests are identified on an individual, isolate the participant from the general population and follow your center protocol in dealing with pest infestation/management to include notifying center leadership for guidance.

# Guidelines and Resources for Policy/Procedure Development

* [2010 CDC National Center for Environmental Health: Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services. What Is Integrated Pest Management](https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/docs/factsheets/what_is_integrated_pest_management.pdf)
* [2012 CDC Healthy Housing Reference Manual. Chapter 4 - Disease Vectors and Pests](https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/publications/books/housing/cha04.htm)
* [2019 CDC Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Centers: Recommendations of the CDC and Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HIPAC)](https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/environmental-guidelines-P.pdf)
* [2021 The Joint Commission, Clarifying Infection Control Policy Requirements:](https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/ambulatory/infection-prevention-and-control-ic/000002145/) [Boxes and Shipping Containers | Ambulatory | Infection Prevention and Control IC](https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/ambulatory/infection-prevention-and-control-ic/000002145/)

**Notes and Recommendations**

* Other participant care and center operation policies and procedures should reinforce pest management as a critical step in a center’s infection prevention program.
* For all staff and volunteer training, consider the use of quizzes/tests at the conclusion of training, return demonstration, or teach back of content to ensure comprehension.
* Staff will be trained at hire, evaluated for competence with feedback and training will be reinforced at least annually.
* Consider utilizing an audit tool for compliance with pest management and implement an auditing schedule for ongoing sustainment of this policy.
* All sources, standards, guidelines, and resources should be verified annually, or more frequently as your center policy dictates, to ensure the most up to date information is provided.
* Common vermin and pests to be aware of in your center:

[Chapter 4: Disease Vectors and Pests | Healthy Housing Reference Manual](https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/publications/books/housing/cha04.htm#:~:text=Most%20homeowners%20have%20encountered%20a%20problem%20with%20rodents%2C%20cockroaches%2C%20fleas%2C%20flies%2C%20termites%2C%20or%20fire%20ants.%20These%20pests%20destroy%20property%20or%20carry%20disease%2C%20or%20both%2C%20and%20can%20be%20a%20problem%20for%20rich%20and%20poor%20alike)