



This presentation describes IPM and pesticide use.

## Concerns with pesticides

- Pests can become tolerant of or avoid pesticides.
- Risk from exposure may outweigh the benefit of killing pests.
- Possible harm to pets and wildlife.
- Certain populations may be especially vulnerable or sensitive to some pesticides:
  - Elderly; children; pregnant women
  - People with breathing or lung disorders such as asthma
  - People with multiple chemical sensitivities

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Some of the trainees may have experience with resistance (pests don't die) or aversion (pests avoid baits).

Property managers and maintenance crews must identify residents who are especially vulnerable to chemical exposure. Some residents may not be able to tolerate the presence of chemicals, such as gel baits, in their units, or they may feel that admitting a PMP to their unit may expose them to the pesticides present on the PMP's clothing. Special attention must be given to people with chemical sensitivities so that they receive pest management services that meet their needs. Conventional pesticides should not be used in the units occupied by people with chemical sensitivities, or in adjacent or neighboring units, or in common areas such as the halls, lobbies, laundry rooms, elevators, or stairs, or along paths of travel for disability access. (Under the Fair Housing Act, multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS) can constitute a handicap. MCS refers to a condition that causes a person to have severe hypersensitive reactions to a number of different common substances including pesticides and solvents.) People with chemical sensitivities are frequently very knowledgeable about least risky pest control practices and may be helpful in assisting and educating other tenants in achieving the IPM goals. The elderly, pregnant women, and families with children are at greater risk for adverse health effects associated with exposure to pesticides. For these reasons it makes sense to use reduced risk practices, to follow label instructions, and to practice prevention-based approaches that reduce reliance on chemical control measures. Working with these residents is an important part of the property manager's responsibilities.