

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, Kentucky

Integrated Pest Management or IPM is a process for achieving environmentally sound pest suppression. This process focuses on the prevention of pest populations, monitoring for pests, and using non-toxic or least toxic control methods when a pest problem is identified.

Pesticides (both herbicides and insecticides) are designed to be toxic to life and have been associated with the following: asthma, cancer, ADHD/hyperactivity disorders, dermatological problems, autoimmune problems, Parkinson's Disease, neurological symptoms/seizures, birth defects, hormone/endocrine disruption, multiple chemical sensitivity, reproductive effects such as lowered sperm counts in men, and allergic reactions. Some groups are more vulnerable to negative health effects from pesticide exposure including infants, children, pregnant women, persons with asthma, and persons with chemical sensitivities.

In affirmation of and with respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part and to support the two schools using our buildings and grounds in their compliance with 302 KAR 29:050 Section 12, it is the policy of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington to implement IPM procedures and manage both indoor and outdoor pests with non-toxic and least toxic control methods. Potential pest problems include but are not limited to ants, roaches, rodents, mosquitoes, carpenter bees, poison ivy, and termites. Traditional pest control methods using conventional herbicides and insecticides may be harmful to children and other vulnerable groups. Therefore, toxic pesticides will be used as a last resort after other alternatives have failed and will be precisely targeted to areas not accessible to children.

References

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