



# Green Shield Certified for Pest Management Professionals

## The Sustainable Standard for Premium Pest Protection

### Green Shield Certified (GSC) for Pest Management Professionals (PMP)

is a national non-profit certification program that promotes effective, prevention-based pest control while minimizing the need to use pesticides. GSC for PMP participants include pest control companies that demonstrate proficiency in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to the independent, third-party evaluator IPM Institute of North America.



### GSC for PMP participants benefit their communities by creating:

- 1 **Safer living spaces** for people and pets by avoiding synthetic pesticides that scientific research suggests adversely impact animal and/or human health.
- 2 **Long-term pest control** by removing the food, water and shelter conditions that lead to pest problems.
- 3 **Cost-efficiencies** by recommending low-cost preventative strategies to combat pests such as installing door sweeps, fixing leaky plumbing and using approved pesticides only when necessary.

### How to identify a GSC for PMP participant:

- ▶ This flyer!
- ▶ GSC logo on our website
- ▶ From GSC's "Find A Provider" page at [bit.ly/GSCproviders](https://bit.ly/GSCproviders)



### GSC for PMP participants are:

- 1 **Verified** providers of effective pest control methods. Each GSC company or service must pass a rigorous on-site evaluation every three years to remain certified.
- 2 **Leaders** in sustainable pest management. Green programs of the US HUD Green Incentives Program and the US Green Building Council's LEED certification recognize GSC and offers credits to GSC facilities or facilities that contract with GSC companies.
- 3 **Dedicated** to effective pest management practices with the least risk to people and the environment.

### GSC can achieve the following:

- ▶ **95% reduction** in cockroach infestation in housing after initiation of IPM services.<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ **93% reduction** in pesticide use in federal gov't. buildings by using IPM techniques over 10 years.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ **30% decrease** in costs for public building & grounds pest management when one city switched to IPM.<sup>3</sup>

1 Environmental Health Watch's collaboration with Cuyahogo Housing Authority demonstrates the difference Integrated Pest Management can make. IPM Case Study. EPA. [www.ehw.org/asthma/asth\\_hudreach\\_sum.htm](http://www.ehw.org/asthma/asth_hudreach_sum.htm)

2 Greene A., Breisch, N. L. 2002. J Econ. Entomol. 95:1.1 -13

3 Washington State Department of Ecology. 1999. The City of Santa Monica's Environmental Purchasing – A Case Study. EPA.





Pest control. Peace of mind.

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## IPM vs. Conventional Pest Control

All GSC providers use Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which is a proven, cost-effective strategy to combat pest problems without unnecessary pesticide use. This graphic summarizes six essential IPM strategies that conventional, spray-intensive pest control may not address:



### Monitoring & Inspection

IPM stays on top of conditions that can lead to problems by monitoring and inspecting pest populations, pest entryways of cracks and crevices in building foundations and reduces leaks, mold and other sources of food and water for pests.



### Exclusion

IPM strategies of sealing cracks, repairing deteriorating walls or window frames and installing door sweeps prevent pests from entering your building.



### Plumbing

Cockroaches, rodents and other pests thrive in dark and damp environments. IPM eliminates humidity and water problems in your building by identifying and mitigating mold and repairing leaky faucets and pipes.



### Sanitation

Maintaining clean indoor environments reduces the food and water sources that pests need to survive. IPM practitioners thoroughly sweep and vacuum their facilities and tightly seal trash cans and food containers.



### Trapping and Baiting

Spray pesticides can miss target pests and expose children and pets to these potentially harmful chemicals. IPM recommends placing pesticide baits in tamper-resistant and immovable containers to prevent unintended exposure.



### Least-toxic options

IPM prioritizes non-chemical approaches to control pests and does not permit routine pesticide applications. For GSC, pesticides applied must not contain ingredients classified as carcinogens, reproductive or developmental toxins, endocrine disruptors or neurotoxins by the US EPA or the California Proposition 65 List.