

### IPM and Water Quality



## Integrated Pest Management

- Combination of methods
- Thresholds
- Conserve beneficials
- Ecosystem based



### Management and Pests











Fertilizer

Nematodes

Insects



**Agriculture and Natural Resources** 

### What is the idea behind IPM?

- Prevents problems
- Based on knowledge of pest, biology, and habitat
- Combine practices for long-term management
- Don't spray just because you see a pest
- Uses least-toxic methods to protect people and environment





### **IPM tools and techniques**





- Prevention
- Cultural practices
- Physical/ mechanical
- Biological control
- Pesticides, if needed



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http://whp.altervista.org/horses.php

## When are pesticides needed?



- When pests are causing intolerable damage
- Nonchemical methods aren't effective

#### How to know?

- Identify your pest
- Assess the problem
- Research and consider alternatives





# Pesticides should be used in combination with non-chemical methods.

When other non-chemical methods are used first, pesticides are often not needed or are reduced.

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### How do pesticides affect water quality?

 Many are found at levels above concentrations lethal to aquatic invertebrates or aquatic plants (phytoplankton)



Fewer phytoplankton means fewer food sources

Phytoplankton, base of the aquatic food web



# If applied <u>incorrectly</u>, pesticides can have toxic affects on non-target organisms.



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# Our Watershed Provides Water Resources

- Municipal & Domestic Water Supply
- Recreation
- Wildlife and Estuarine Habitat



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## Why is this not good?

### How do pesticides get into waterways?

- Washed off of soil or treated plants by rain or irrigation
- Moved away from the site of application over the soil surface and carried in runoff down streets, through gutters, and into storm drains
- In storm drains, they flow through pipes into streams, rivers, lakes



#### Environmental conditions that affect movement

#### **Runoff is likely**

When it rains

If the area is irrigated soon after an application

If the area treated is on a slope

#### Leaching is likely ↓ When a site is overwatered

The environmental conditions, properties of pesticides, and soil type all affect the extent of runoff and leaching



#### Why Should I Care?

- Landscaping practices and pest control methods can impact water quality
- Pesticides are a leading contributors to water pollution in Orange County
- Chemicals and nutrients found in pesticides and fertilizers are harmful or lethal to organisms that live downstream



### IPM Helps Improve Water Quality











ON THIS SITE	🛱 Using
What is IPM?	Year-Re
Home & landscape pests	Establis
Agricultural pests	Wint
Natural environment pests	• Spri
Exotic & invasive pests	• Fall
Weed gallery	
Natural enemies gallery	UC IP
Weather, models & degree-days	agricultu
Pesticide information	
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