

## Children and Pests

'It is necessary to protect our children from unnecessary exposure to pest control products, while also ensuring they are not subjected to the health risks associated with pests.'



Kids, Pests and Chemicals

## Most Common Pests Found in Schools

- ◆ Cockroaches
- ◆ Ants
- ◆ Rodents
- ◆ Lice
- ◆ Flies
- ◆ Stinging / Biting Insects
- ◆ Mosquitoes
- ◆ Ticks



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## Cockroaches

- ◆ Fouls food
- ◆ Damages paper and fabrics
- ◆ Produces unpleasant odors
- ◆ Transmits food poisoning agents
- ◆ Causes the onset of asthma
- ◆ Triggers asthma exacerbations
- ◆ Allergen



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## Ants

- ◆ Transmits food poisoning agents
- ◆ Some varieties bite and/or sting
- ◆ Nuisance



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## Rodents

- ◆ Carries diseases, such as hantavirus
- ◆ Contaminates food with urine, droppings and hair
- ◆ Transmits food poisoning agents
- ◆ Chews and burrows, damaging property
- ◆ Chews wiring, which can cause fires



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## Lice

- ◆ Human infestation is "Pediculosis", with persistent itching on the scalp
- ◆ Severe cases cause scarred, hardened, pigmented skin known as "Vagabond's Disease" with rash and swollen lymph glands
- ◆ Scratching increases the inflammation, sometimes leading to secondary bacterial infections
- ◆ Students removed from school



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## Flies

- ◆ Nuisance
- ◆ Some flies have painful bite
- ◆ Transmits food poisoning agents
- ◆ Foul food by regurgitating their stomach contents on food and by depositing fecal material



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## Stinging Insects

- ◆ 1 to 2 million people are allergic to insect venom (5% of the population)
- ◆ Insects that sting include bees, wasps, hornets, bumble bees and ants
- ◆ Normal reaction: painful, but dissipates
- ◆ Large local reaction: lasts for days
- ◆ Severe reaction: whole body involved, with most deaths occurring within 30 minutes



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## Biting Insects

- ◆ Spiders that bite: black widow and brown recluse
- ◆ Brown recluse bites rarely cause fatalities, but children are among most vulnerable
- ◆ Bite may not be felt, but within 24 to 36 hours fever, chills, nausea, etc. may occur
- ◆ Wound may be small or large and may take six to eight weeks to heal



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## Mosquitoes

- ◆ Largest disease threat from mosquitoes in Tennessee is encephalitis
- ◆ LaCross Encephalitis has occurred in East Tennessee



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## Ticks

- ◆ Can carry Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and other diseases



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