

A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

Safer Pest Control Project (SPCP) was founded in 1994 to reduce the health risks and environmental impacts of pesticides in Illinois. Since its inception, SPCP has made remarkable strides toward its goals, including:

Strengthening Child-Safety Laws: SPCP led the charge for state laws designed to decrease the use of pesticides in public schools and childcare facilities.

Conducting Public Education Campaigns: SPCP created successful workshops on safe and effective pest control for schools, childcares and low-income housing.

Improving Housing Conditions: SPCP instituted an award-winning IPM program in Chicago's Henry Horner Homes, a model that was adopted throughout all of the city's public housing.



SAFER PEST CONTROL PROJECT NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT:

A donation to SPCP is an investment in a healthy environment for you and your family. The generosity of our supporters makes it possible for SPCP to continue its important work. Please support our efforts to:

- Minimize pesticide use in schools, childcare centers, yards and parks.
- Reduce pesticide exposure and pest problems in low-income housing.
- Decrease groundwater contamination and exposure to lawn and garden chemicals.
- Inform the public about pesticide risks and the availability of safer alternatives.



**SAFER PEST
CONTROL PROJECT**

PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PARTNER WITH US TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES!

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**SAFER PEST
CONTROL PROJECT**



**Reducing the health risks
and environmental impacts
of pesticides.**

PESTICIDES HARM OUR KIDS, OURSELVES AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

Pesticides are everywhere: public schools, playgrounds, golf courses and homes, to name just a few. Yet pesticides pose a threat to our health and pollute our environment, even when used properly. Children are more vulnerable to pesticide risks because they are still developing, and they often play on the ground and put things in their mouths. In fact, pesticides are the second most common source of childhood poisoning. In addition, studies show:

- Children are 50% more likely to develop leukemia if their mother was exposed to pesticides during pregnancy.
- Children exposed to pesticides have as much as ten times higher risk of developing cancer than adults with similar exposures.
- Children have a greater risk of developing asthma if exposed to pesticides during their first year of life.
- Adults who often use pesticides at home more than double their risk of getting Parkinson's Disease.
- The U.S. Geological Survey found that 100% of all surface waters sampled were contaminated by one or more pesticides.



CHANGING THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT PEST CONTROL

Pesticides are poisons by definition. Research has linked pesticide exposure to cancer and birth defects, as well as neurological, reproductive, behavioral, hormonal and immune system disorders.



Pesticides also pollute our environment. Pesticides applied to outdoor areas, including lawns, result in a significant amount of untreated chemical runoff.

Often, pesticides are ineffective at controlling pests because they do not address the root cause of pest and weed problems.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

The good news is there are safer, more effective alternatives.

IPM is a proven, effective and economical method of pest control that eliminates the root cause of pest problems. IPM uses a variety of nontoxic measures—such as improved maintenance and sanitation—to minimize pests' access to food, water and shelter.

SPCP's programs educate people about safer methods of pest control, and they have a significant impact on the quality of life of the people they reach.

SAFER PEST CONTROL PROJECT: A STRONG, EFFECTIVE VOICE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

SPCP advocates for safer pest control in the state legislature, local government and our communities. SPCP's programs have improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of children and residents in diverse communities. And we're not done yet.

SPCP is working to make it easier to choose natural lawn care and to use safer pest control methods in our homes and schools. SPCP develops model programs and policies, lobbies for legislation, builds coalitions among diverse groups, and does outreach and training.

