

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT – Questions and Answers

The University of North Alabama utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM)¹ program in their approach to pest² management. Professional pest control vendors that provide service follow this approach as well. Work Flows exist are based on the type of pest. IPM is not focused on the total eradication of pests with widespread pesticide use. The goal is to achieve long term, environmentally sensitive pest suppression/eradication through the primary use of inspection, identification, monitoring, and the use of a wide variety of mechanical, physical, cultural, and biological methods. These methods will focus on the presence of any pest which may:

1. Interfere with the learning or work environment,
 2. Cause injury to students, employees, visiting public, or University property, or
 3. Reflect negatively upon the University
- The University's Pest Control contractor is here on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesdays of each month. They also respond to the work orders you enter in between these scheduled visits.
 - Twice each summer, they visit residence hall and treat dorm rooms and common areas.
 - During regular monthly visits, a large part of this time is spent "monitoring", looking to see if there is evidence of pests in campus buildings. They also are prepared to spot treat areas such as entrance thresholds and confined areas between cabinets in eating areas. When needed, they may place a sticky trap or bait station in an area. They report their findings after visits, providing the University with information needed to improve campus buildings with the goal of making it less attractive/harder to enter our buildings, if needed.

The schedule for routine service in campus building can be found here:

<https://una.edu/facilities/environmental-health-and-safety/pest-management.html>.

Questions and Answers

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| What if I see dead bugs in my work area or classroom? | <p>Under IPM program, seeing dead bugs is a sign that targeted, low-risk chemical controls have been effective in a specific area. However, the continued presence of live bugs, especially if numbers are not decreasing over time, indicates that the underlying conditions attracting the pests still exist.</p> <p>Seeing a dead bug does not mean that chemical treatment is needed. Normally, the dead bugs can be swept up and disposed of.</p> |
| What should I do if I see a live bug/pest in my work area, living area, or classroom? | <p>If the bug/pest is objectionable, there are options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sweep it outside• Enter a work order on the Facilities Home Page (https://una.edu/facilities/). Ensure that you identify the pest, the exact location (i.e., room number or room name), and whether the pest is live or dead). Also include the name and contact information of the original requestor in case there are questions. |

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| What should I do if I suspect a pest such as a mouse or squirrel is above the ceiling tiles in my building? | <p>Enter a work order at https://una.edu/facilities/. Ensure that you identify the exact location (i.e., room number or name and whether the pest is live or dead). Also include the name and contact information of the original requestor.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> some pests are covered by laws that limit how they are handled. The University strives to adhere to applicable regulations and alternate vendors may be utilized.</p> |
| I entered a work request to address a pest in my residence hall room/office. When can I expect to see the pest control professional? | <p>Facilities is reviewing all work orders promptly and assigning them to the responsible parties. Entering complete details (below) related to your situation will speed up the response, esp. if we have questions related to the situation. We have defined work flows related to several types of situations to ensure we can respond rapidly. There is a set schedule for routine visits (https://una.edu/facilities/environmental-health-and-safety/pest-management.html) and for work orders in between the technician often responds within 24-48 hours, M-F.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the exact location (i.e., room number or name and whether the pest is live or dead). Also include the name and contact information of the original requestor. |
| Why am I suddenly seeing spiders or bugs in my building late in the year? | <p>Some pests begin looking for shelter in the cooler months and are attracted to your office or residence hall room. Please enter a work order at https://una.edu/facilities/.</p> |
| Are there steps I can take to discourage pests? | <p>Maintaining your work/living area in a sanitary and orderly manner are important steps and within your control. Open food/snack containers, spilled sugary beverages, and piles of clothing or cardboard boxes are attractive places to many pests. Ensure that you clean up cooking/food preparation areas promptly.</p> |

REFERENCES

1. <https://www.epa.gov/safepestcontrol/integrated-pest-management-ipm-principles>
2. "Pest" includes insects/spiders, rats, mice, squirrels, bats, and other unwanted animals.