

PEST MANAGEMENT at AKARNG FACILITIES

A. Overview

The mission of the Department of Defense Pest Management Program is to protect Alaska Army National Guard (AKARNG) property and assets from damage; reduce health and environmental risks associated with pesticides; support stewardship of natural, cultural, and historic resources; safeguard AKARNG personnel, building staff and visitors from injury and disease; and support vegetation control and invasive species on AKARNG properties.

B. Integrated Pest Management Plan (AR 200-1, DODI 4150.07)

The Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) is a document that describes responsibilities, policies, and procedures for integrated pest management techniques by the AKARNG. “Integrated” meaning AKARNG is taking an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices and current pest control methods to tackle pest issues by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment. The IPMP contains outlines for specific pests that discuss pest information, surveillance methods and treatment options. This can be found in IPMP Appendix B. Certain treatment options can be performed by AKARNG personnel and building staff under the Self-Help Management Program. The Self-Help Program authorizes the use of pre-approved products and techniques. All label instructions must be read and followed – **The Label is the Law**.

Questions about the Self-Help Management Program, the IPMP or AKARNG policies and procedures should be directed to the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator (IPMC) (phone # 907-428-7157, Section H, Part 1a). A copy of the is available upon request.

C. Responding to Pest Issues

In general, pest issues should be brought to the attention of the Facilities Management Office (FMO) Maintenance Office and the IPMC using an FMO Work Order (<https://dmva.alaska.gov/fmo-work-request/>) or by contacting the IPMC directly. The Maintenance Office provides the actual pest services, while the IPMC records the incident, tracks progress, and answers any follow-up questions that the reporting party may have.

Generally, the most common pests encountered by AKARNG/DMVA personnel are wasps/hornets, flies, rodents, and wildlife. Below is a short description of what to do when they are encountered. For information on other types of pests, refer to the IPMP or contact the IPMC (Section H, Part 1a).

1. Rodents

Step 1: Clean all areas where food is stored or may be left out and keep them clean.

Step 2: Make sure garbage is taken out regularly.

Step 3: Keep windows and doors shut when not in use.

Snap traps, sticky traps or live traps are recommended to manage these pests and may be obtained through an FMO work order (Section H, part 3). Traps should be inspected daily and dispose of dead rodents while wearing proper Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). **The use of poisonous baits is prohibited at AKARNG facilities.**

2. Wasps

Wasp nests are generally found outdoors under sheltering structures such as eaves or unused vehicles. Their nests are made from a white, papery substance. If a wasp nest is encountered, it should be treated using an insecticide labeled for use on wasps/hornets in accordance with the directions on the container. Submit a work order to the FMO Maintenance Office for wasp nest removal (Section H, Part 3).

Anyone who uses pesticides must first complete the appropriate training and file an annual Acknowledgement of Understanding with the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator. AKARNG and DMVA personnel may only use those pesticides approved for the Self-Help Management Program (IPMP Appendix E). Once a pesticide product has been approved, it can only be used on the nest. There is no pesticide that will keep wasps or hornets from individually flying around the sides of buildings.

NOTE: It is against the law to use pesticides to control honeybees. If honeybees or bumblebees are encountered and are preventing the mission from being completed, contact either IPMC (during normal duty hours) or the CFMO Design and Projects Manager (afterhours and weekends) at the numbers listed below (Section H, Parts 1a and 2). If ground nesting wasps or bees are encountered, contact the IPMC.

3. Flies

House flies and other domestic flies may enter buildings through open doors, windows, cracks in search of food, moisture, and shelter. If there is suitable decaying organic material available, they will reproduce indoors. Sanitation is the best control method for some types of flies and others are more effectively controlled by traps and habitat modification such as emptying trash more frequently, putting a lid on trash containers, do not leave doors or unscreened windows open.

Sticky fly strips that **do not** contain pesticides can also be used to help control flies inside buildings, reach out to IPMC for more information. Do not place strips in the kitchen or food preparation areas. Jar traps are an effective system for trapping house flies in most instances but must be emptied regularly.

4. Bears, Moose, and Other Wildlife

In general, wildlife spotted along a road, trail, or in the woods cannot normally be hazed or harassed, per State law and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Living with Wildlife Policy; however, the

Integrated Pest Management Coordinator may be contacted when such wildlife is observed in order to pass the information to the rest of the DMVA and AKARNG for situational awareness.

On Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), if wildlife is aggressive, a nuisance, approaches people or facilities, or gets into trash, Security Forces should be contacted (907-552-7070) immediately for dispatch. Euthanasia of problem bears is very rare, and must be justified through documentation, hazing methods, and corrective actions taken prior to the State issuing permission, which is why it is essential that Security Forces be notified by the individual that sees the issue firsthand as quickly as possible. For non-JBER facilities, notify the local Alaska Department of Fish & Game Office and the IPMC.

D. Pesticide Storage (AFPMB TG 17)

1. Pesticide Storage Guidelines

In general, if there are only a few containers (3 or fewer) of a pesticide, they can be kept together in one single location on a secure shelf or in a locker, closet, or cabinet. Wherever this location is, it must be labeled as a "Pesticide Storage Area". For more than three, use the following guidelines:

- a. If the pesticide is flammable, it should be stored in a flamlocker. This includes aerosolized pesticides such as wasp spray (even if the liquid inside isn't flammable, aerosol cans are pressurized and could become a fire hazard).
- b. If the label says "Danger" or "Caution", it should be stored in a hazlocker.
- c. Non-flammable liquids can be stored in a hazlocker, supply closet or cabinet.
- d. Non-flammable gels or solids can be stored in a supply closet or cabinet.

Pesticides should not be exposed to extreme hot or cold temperatures or direct sun.

2. Security

Pesticides must be secured in a way that they are available only to qualified individuals (personnel who will be using them). Generally, there should be at least two layers of security containing the pesticides; for example, a locked gate (1) and a locked building (2), or a locked building (1) and a locked cabinet (2).

Questions about pesticide security can be directed to the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator at the number below (Section H, Part 1a).

3. Pesticide Identification

All pesticide containers must be labeled with the identity of the chemical and the appropriate hazard warnings. The pesticide label has this information, but if the label is damaged or removed, it must be replaced. A hand-written label with the relevant information is acceptable.

A sign must be present wherever pesticides are stored, including cabinets, shelves, and closets. The appropriate level of signage depends on the signal word for the most hazardous pesticide ("Warning", or

“Danger”). Signs may be obtained from the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator (Section H, Part 1a).

E. Pesticide Spills (AFPMB TG 15)

A spill kit should be kept near pesticide storage areas for incidental (small) releases of hazardous substances. In the case of an emergency spill, refer to the Installation Spill Contingency Plan (ICP) in this binder.

F. Pesticide Disposal

To avoid potential disposal problems, only purchase the quantity of pesticide product needed for a specific treatment or a season’s worth. Any partially used or unwanted pesticides should be reported to the Hazardous Waste Manager using the Material Disposal Request Form located on the Hazardous Waste Management Plan CD included in this binder. For questions, call the Hazardous Waste Manager at the number below (Section H, Part 5a).

Pesticides that have been used up completely may be disposed of according to the directions on the label, unless it is an aerosol can; empty aerosol cans must be reported to the Hazardous Waste Manager using the Material Disposal Request Form.

G. Incident Reporting

Incident reports should be submitted to the Joint Operations Center (JOC) at the number below (Section H, Part 8).

H. Contacts

1. Pest Issues/Questions (normal business hours):
 - a. AKARNG Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, 907-428-7157, patrick.geary@alaska.gov
 - b. FMO Maintenance Office, 907-428-7159
2. Urgent Pest Issues (afterhours): CFMO Design and Projects Manager, 907-428-7693
3. FMO Work Orders (pesticide orders, assistance, etc.): DMVA webpage, <https://dmva.alaska.gov/FMO/FMOWorkOrder/>.
4. Pesticide Spills Assistance: AKARNG Water Program Manager, 907-428-7151

5. Pesticide Disposal:
 - a. AKARNG Hazardous Waste Manager, 907-428-7182
 - b. Material Disposal Request Form located on the Hazardous Waste Management Plan CD in this binder
6. 24-Hour Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222
7. Health and Safety Concerns: AKARNG Safety Office, 907-428-6486
8. Incident Reports: Joint Operations Center (JOC), 907-428-6365
9. JBER Security Forces: 907-552-7070