

Pest Monitoring Protocol

for IPM in Schools/Child Care

When placing sticky monitor traps, it is important to remember a few things:

- Monitors should be placed indoors in **all** existing pest vulnerable areas (PVAs) and hot spots (see next page for a complete list of PVAs).
- Monitors should be placed with the vertical side against a wall or window frame (see picture).
- Monitors should be placed out of the way of people or activities; secluded corners are often good spots.
- Use the double-sided tape on the underside to secure the monitor.
- If monitors are not catching pests, think about how the pests may be entering and relocate the monitor. Zeroing in on pest activity within a room can help address the cause of pest entry and ultimately what action(s) is required.
- Monitor locations should cover the site well. Use too many as opposed to too few.
- If monitors are placed in a classroom, the teacher should be informed of its purpose.
- All monitors should have a placement date, location, a number (if more than one), and initials.
- A record of monitor locations should be kept in case someone else has to check them.
- Stickers (e.g., sticky dots) may be useful when placed at eye-level to indicate monitors are present underneath shelving or equipment.
- Monitors should be checked monthly and *should be changed* when it is filled with pests, dust/dirt, or *when four months have passed*.
- Typically, an elementary school requires 20 monitors, a middle school 30, a high school 35.
- Monitoring stations should not be stored alongside volatile pesticides.



Sticky monitoring traps are placed against the wall, baseboard, or window ledge.

General Information:

Use other structural elements as monitors: window ledges, floor drains, light coverings, and spider webbing all may contain pests, feces, webbing, etc., and thereby help monitor pest activity.

Numerous different types of monitor traps exist; experiment with the different options to see what works most effectively in your facility.

Pest Vulnerable Areas (PVAs)	Monitor Placement Area
1. Kitchen/cafeteria	Dry storage and pantry, dishwasher area, near external cafeteria doors, near floor drains, within the lower panels of serving counters
2. Staff lounge	Behind vending machines, in counter or drawer, behind microwave, behind or next to refrigerator
3. Custodian's storage	Under shelving, near floor sink, near external door (if present)
4. Reported hot zones from pest sighting log	Under counters, sinks, near windows
5. Special Education or kindergarten classrooms	Near food preparation area and backpack storage, under sink
6. Home economics, life skills classrooms	Near stove or refrigerator, near washer/dryer, under counter
7. Stage areas	Under stage storage, in equipment room
8. Locker areas	Under lockers
9. Concession stands	Under counters, behind or next to equipment
10. Classrooms with animals/plants	Near pet food or plants
11. Cluttered classrooms	Remove clutter, monitor in storage areas, under sinks
12. Bathrooms (optional)	Near external doors, near cracks and crevices, near utility pipes without escutcheon plates
13. Nurses station (optional)	Under desk, under sink, near external door