Healthy Homes Pilot Program

City of San José
October 28, 2015
Why we’re here today
Our families
Today we’ll talk about

- Why pests cause problems
- Safer and more effective ways to manage pests than routine spraying
- How to prevent and control pests
- What you can do to help the Healthy Buildings program succeed
What is Integrated Pest Management?

IPM is a proven pest management strategy, designed to prevent and control pests while keeping people and pets safe from exposure to pesticides. IPM prevents pest problems through cleaning, making repairs, and pest-proofing. Pesticides are used as a last resort and in the safest way possible.
IPM in Multi-family buildings

Requires cooperation and good communication between residents and the building manager.

Includes:

• Inspection and follow-up visits from Pestec
• Good housekeeping by residents
• Pest-proofing by management and maintenance staff
The pilot program and YOU!

Building managers will learn about less-toxic pest control, and receive an IPM Toolkit to share with residents.

Residents will find that our homes can be pest-free and healthier for family members and pets.
How this program will work

• Inspection by Pestec is required for all units
• Building management will make repairs and call Pestec when there is a pest problem
• Tenants must tell management about all pest problems

Do not spray or try to get rid of pests on your own!
Pollution indoors
Pests cause pollution
Pests and pesticides in our homes cause health problems

Pests can

- Cause asthma and allergies
- Contaminate food
- Spread disease
- Damage property

Pesticide sprays and foggers

- Cause asthma and allergies
- Are especially dangerous for children and pregnant women
Avoid these chemicals!
What works instead of pesticides?

IPM!

• Prevent pests from coming into your home
• Take away pests’ food and water
• Take away their homes (by cleaning and getting rid of clutter)
• Get rid of pests using safer products and practices
What can residents do to prevent pests?
Keep it clean
Use soap and water
Clean up food that attracts pests
Store food in sealed containers
Clean up clutter
What can building management do to prevent pests?
Empty and clean trash and recycling bins regularly
Take away pests’ water
Block pests’ entryways
Seal cracks
Entry holes for rats and mice
Install a door sweep
Close up holes...
...with escutcheons
What can you do to get rid of pests?
Use a HEPA vacuum
Use fly swatters or fly tape
Use snap traps
Use safer pesticides as a last resort
Summary: What will residents need to do during the program?

- Call your property manager if you have any pest problems
- Keep your homes clean, dry and clutter-free
- Report any leaks or holes where pests might be entering to your property manager
- Do not spray or fog your home or try to treat pests on your own
What will property managers need to do?

- Share any past pest control records
- Call Pestec to set up initial inspections and provide notice to residents
- Schedule treatment with Pestec when tenants report a problem
- Fix any leaks and seal any cracks or holes where pests might be coming in
- Do not hand out any pesticide products to residents!
Your IPM Toolkit
Questions?