

# Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

## Environmentally Safe Ways to Reduce Pests

IPM is a comprehensive approach to solving pest problems that focuses on the big picture. Instead of simply trying to eliminate a pest, IPM involves changing factors that favor pests, while using safer, less-toxic methods that are effective and environmentally sound.

Correct pest identification is key, as is keeping an eye on your garden on a regular basis to observe any damage or problems before they get out of hand. Some IPM approaches include:



Pest	IPM Techniques
Aphids	Mild dish soap spray; Insecticidal soap spray; Worm poop tea; Lady bugs; Hose off with forceful spray of water; Wipe them off.
Ants	Apply sticky substances around tree trunks to keep ants away from food source (e.g.: aphids, scales); Use borate-based baits to destroy ant colony; Barriers of bone meal, diatomaceous earth (also good for fleas and bed bugs), baby powder and chili pepper; Avoid sprays.
Gophers	Gopher traps (esp. the Blackhole!); Plants that deter gophers (e.g.: society garlic); Dog, cat, owl and/or hawk; Dog poop; Juicy fruit or gummy bears; Install chicken wire under raised beds or surround root ball.
Rabbits	Havahart trap; Human hair; Animal urine (biodegradable kitty litter); Garden hose; Electric fence; Vinegar; Hot pepper flakes; Repellant spray made of coyote urine, garlic and/or rotten eggs.
Snails & Slugs	Beer traps (seems wasteful), Hand pick method (feed to chickens or ducks); Copper tree band barriers; Tangle foot; Predatory snails; Egg shells; Diatomaceous earth.
Lawn Issues	Find out the real problem before taking action. Damaged or brown spots can be from too much or too little water, pests and/or herbicides.
Weeds	Pull them before they seed; Use mulch.

If you must use toxic chemicals, share with friends, use as little as possible, and always dispose of it correctly (888CleanLA.com).



### For More Info:

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