



**GREEN
SHIELD
CERTIFIED**

Pest control. Peace of mind.

Elite Pest Management Eco Green Plus

Elite Pest Management Achieves GREEN SHIELD CERTIFIEDSM Status for Eco Green Plus Service to Schools and Healthcare Facilities

Elite Pest Management has earned GREEN SHIELD CERTIFIED status for the advanced IPM service the firm provides to schools and healthcare facilities. The service is called Eco Green Plus. The certification was awarded after rigorous, on-site evaluation conducted by the IPM Institute of North America, an independent non-profit organization.

Elite was founded by Ken Matheny in 2001. Ken has found a niche meeting the needs of sensitive environments such as schools and nursing homes with an IPM service. Matheny also counts residences, churches and commercial facilities as clients.

IPM stands for Integrated Pest Management. "IPM is just common sense," relates Matheny. "There's no need to spray pesticides just because someone saw a few ants," he continues. "We'll work to identify the cause of the problem and a permanent solution." As a result, Elite offers some unusual services for a pest control company, including cleaning clogged gutters and downspouts which can collect water and attract ants, and installing chimney caps, which can keep out birds, squirrels and other critters.

Elite's IPM approach pays big dividends to its customers and to the company. This year, Elite conducted "pre-inspections" to find and remove stinging insect nests before schools opened, which drastically reduced complaints and the need to send technicians out on an emergency basis.

Matheny is a firm believer in IPM training. "All of our employees go through IPM training, even our office staff," he explains. "And they get a bonus after passing the test." The training is conducted over several months, using videos and other materials developed by university experts and others.

Elite services the Michigan counties of Oakland, Wayne, St. Clair, Depere and Macomb. A website dedicated to IPM for schools is maintained by Elite at www.ipmformisd.com and includes information on how to manage common pests found in schools effectively through IPM.