



Key Environmental Pest Control Green Efforts Program

Key Environmental Pest Control Achieves GREEN SHIELD CERTIFIED® Status for its Green Efforts Program

Key Environmental Pest Control has recently achieved Green Shield Certification of its green pest management service, the Green Efforts Program. The program underwent a rigorous on-site evaluation to earn the credential offered by the IPM Institute of North America Inc. Key Environmental was established in 1999 and is fully licensed in New York and New Jersey.

Key Environmental initially provided pest control services for restaurants and, through field experience, its technicians soon learned that a well-constructed and well-maintained facility is the means to positive pest control. Before beginning a contract, Key Environmental conducts a full inspection and interview. According to owner Paul D'Arpa, "After a few years of working with New York City restaurants, we learned that small adjustments to structures up front were making big differences in the end results, both in terms of pests and in the expenses associated with pest control." This brought about the addition of small hole repair services to Key Environmental's restaurant service plans, which has proven to be an effective measure for rodent control. This change was the beginning of Key Environmental's IPM approach to pest control.

Once faced with a situation where carpenter bees were accessing the back side of a fascia board, D'Arpa noted that they could have easily treated the holes with chemicals on a yearly basis. Instead, they opted to insert a barrier in the gap prohibiting the bees from accessing the wood at all. D'Arpa commented, "This was a completely non-chemical fix to a problem which had been around and treated with chemicals for several years. The feedback we received from that customer was, 'Key Environmental Pest Control offered us a solution no other company even mentioned.'"

Today, IPM and the Green Efforts Program are a large part of Key Environmental's pest control services. D'Arpa knows that offering greener applications is healthier for the technician and the environment and is also appealing to the client.

Green Shield Certified is operated by the IPM Institute of North America Inc., an independent non-profit organization based in Madison, Wisconsin. Modeled after the Institute's award-winning IPM STAR program for schools, Green Shield Certified is available to pest control companies and services, as well as facilities other than schools.