

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the IPM Certification and Accreditation Program?

The IPM Certification and Accreditation Program is designed to recognize landscape companies, golf courses, municipalities, and other related groups that demonstrate knowledge of, and commitment to, the principles of Integrated Pest Management and plant health for environmentally sustainable turf management.

Do Provincial regulators endorse this level of Accreditation as ‘being enrolled in an acceptable IPM program’?

The New Brunswick Department of the Environment have endorsed (December 2009) the certification and accreditation programs managed by Plant Health Atlantic Council. Facilities issued Baseline IPM Accreditation by PHAC meet the new regulatory requirement. For updated details on the New Brunswick pesticide regulations visit: <http://www.gnb.ca/0009/0369/0024/index-e.asp> Some municipality (e.g, Truro, N.S.) already require contracted lawn care companies to be enrolled in the IPM programs administered by PHAC.

What is my next step once I get an Improvement Plan?

A facility awarded a **Baseline IPM Accreditation** level can immediately start planning for the next level of accreditation by gathering information, training staff, improving customer information, and making operational changes as outlined in the **Improvement Plan**. A facility can make application for a **Full Desk Audit** once they feel they satisfy the requirements. This typically is done following the next full operating season.

Does the facility immediately loose accreditation status if the IPM Turf Practitioner leaves?

No! The municipality will retain their present accreditation status if you have immediately notified the PHA Administrator of their departure and replace them within four (4) weeks (20 working days). Replacement involves hiring an IPM Certified Turf Practitioner or having an existing staff meet the certification requirements (*See: General Information Guide*). PHA recommend having more than one certified turf practitioner on staff.

What are the requirements of the IPM Certification and IPM Accreditation Program?

There are **two components to the Plant Health Atlantic Program**. The *IPM Certification Program* deals with the educational, training, and ongoing professional development requirements for the employees and the *IPM Accreditation Program* deals with the responsibilities and activities of the municipality. The details of each program are explained below.