

# National Pesticide Information Center 20 Years of Science-Based Conversations



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### National Pesticide Information Center Mission:

NPIC provides objective, science-based information about pesticides to enable people to make informed decisions.

### Risk Communication:

- Specialists address health and safety questions using a risk-based framework.
- Specialists distill complex subjects into lay language that can be easily understood and retained.
- Specialists are experienced in communicating with bi-lingual audiences from broad and diverse backgrounds.
- Educational backgrounds include public health, microbiology, toxicology, soil sciences, and biology.

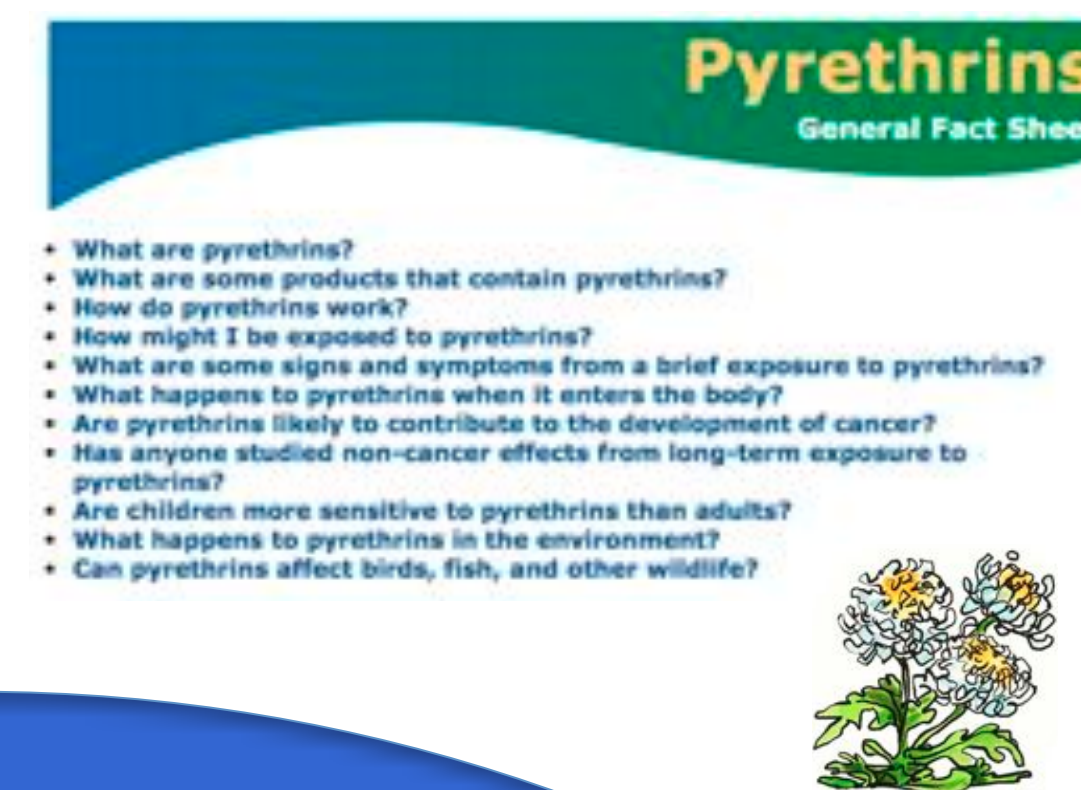
### When facing a pest problem, specialists can offer:

- Information about Integrated Pest Management (IPM): Mechanical, cultural, and biological control options and prevention strategies
- Resources for pest identification, including local County Extension contacts
- Quick tips about pest biology and control can be found on the NPIC PEST app.<sup>1</sup>



### Highly specialized scientific information:

- 80+ Fact Sheets written for general and scientific audiences
- Centralized portal for pesticide-related databases and technical information
- Detailed scientific and regulatory information for over 1,000 active ingredients



### Product registration guidance for pesticide manufacturers:

- Which products require registration? Understanding pesticidal claims
- Differences between state and federal requirements, including label language
- EPA guidance documents regarding Minimum Risk Pesticides which are exempt from EPA registration



Front label for a box of mothballs, a common household pesticide

### Pesticide regulations for products or food crops:

- The NPIC Tolerance Search Tool<sup>2</sup> allows users to find tolerances (pesticide residue limits) for foods from the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).
- NPIC is not an enforcement agency but can direct inquirers to the appropriate Pesticide Regulatory Agency in their state.
- NPIC provides guidance and information resources regarding import/export issues and regulation compliance (through Regional EPA Offices).

### Pesticide applicator certification and training:

- Where to find certification and licensing information and how to get started
- NPIC maintains a resource hub for pesticide workers, including summaries and local contacts for navigating the Worker Protection Standard (WPS).<sup>3</sup>

### Specialists can discuss health and safety information including:

- How risk relates to toxicity and exposure potential
- Ways to prepare the home before a pesticide application
- How to protect yourself and your family during a pesticide application
- How to minimize the risk of exposure after a treatment
- How to minimize pesticide residues on foods (washing, peeling, cooking)

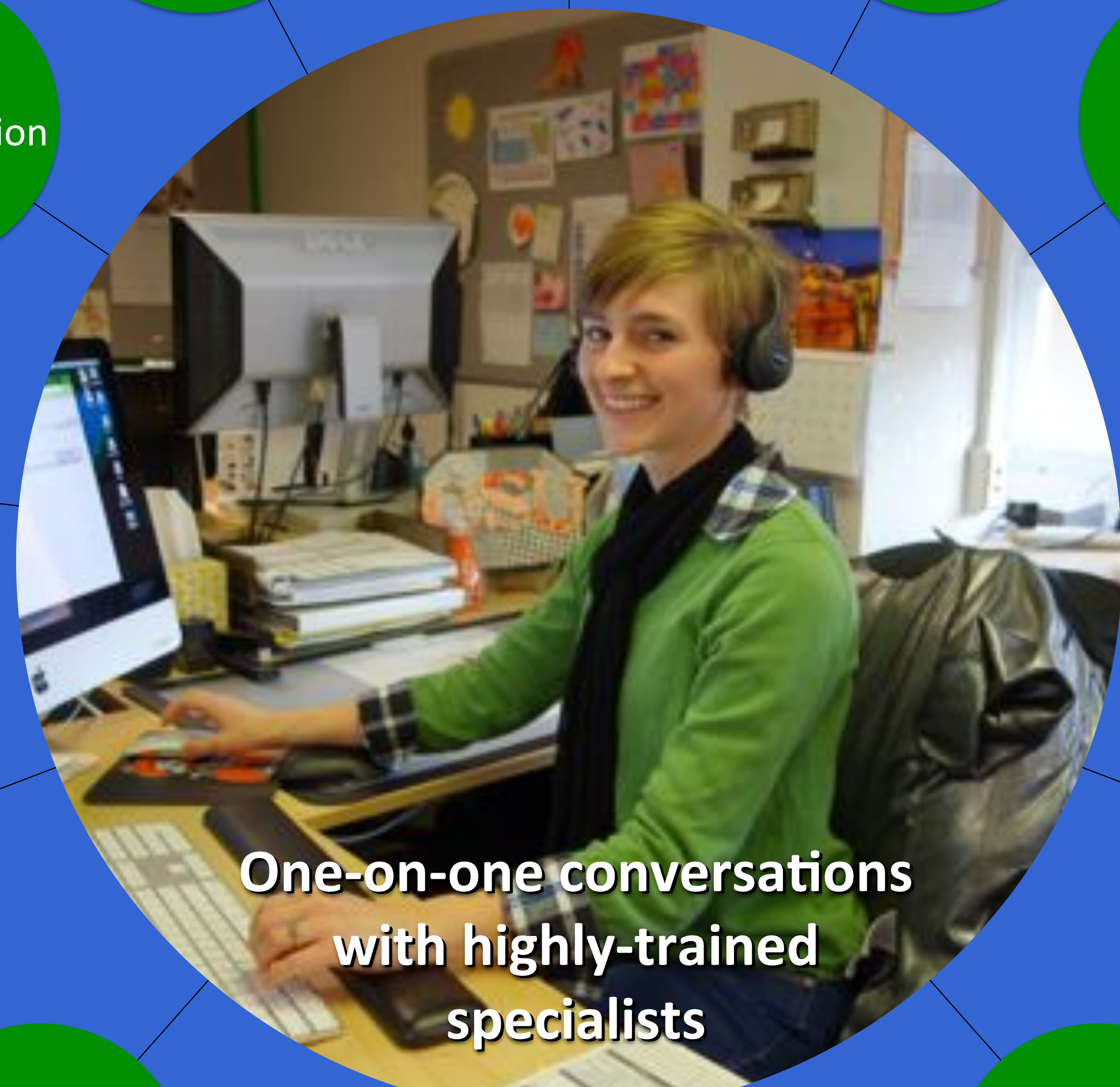
### In the event of a pesticide exposure:

- NPIC specialists connect people with help in a timely way, including emergency resources such as human or animal Poison Control Centers.
- NPIC collaborates with the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) to prevent poisonings through outreach.
- NPIC can provide critical health information on over 1,000 active ingredients.

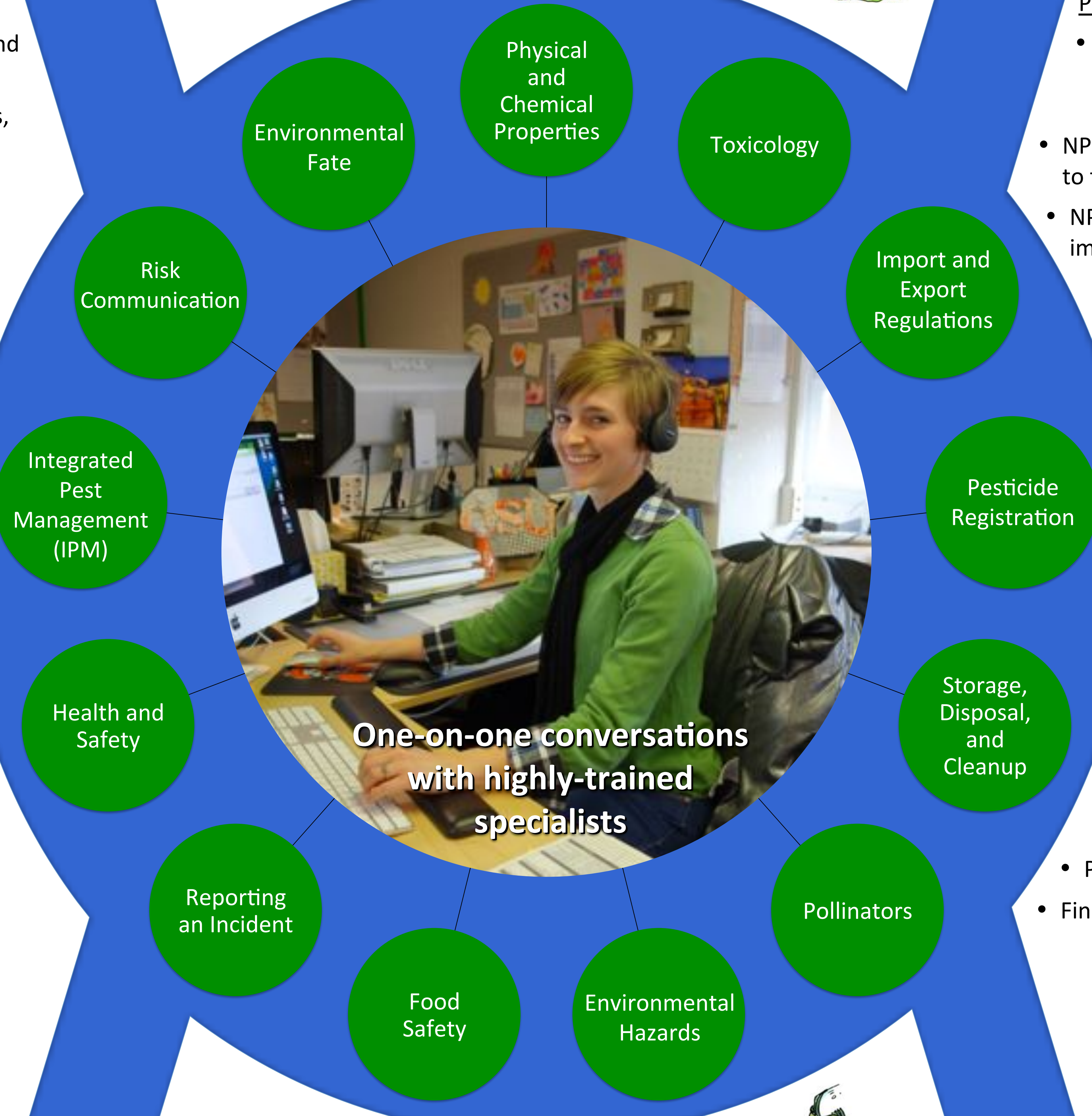


### Where to start with many kinds of pesticide incidents:

- Specialists ensure that exposures are not ongoing, provide crisis management, and connect people with appropriate, local authorities.
- NPIC collects details about pesticide incidents and provides data to EPA and affiliated state agencies for use in regulatory decision-making.



One-on-one conversations  
with highly-trained  
specialists



### Pesticide use and environmental hazards:

- How chemical properties, weather conditions, and product uses affect the risk of groundwater contamination or runoff
- Product selection and application methods that minimize risks to pollinators
- NPIC created the Mobile Access to Pesticides and Labels (MAPL)<sup>5</sup> mobile app, enabling access to federal pesticide labels, product data, and searches using pest-crop combinations.

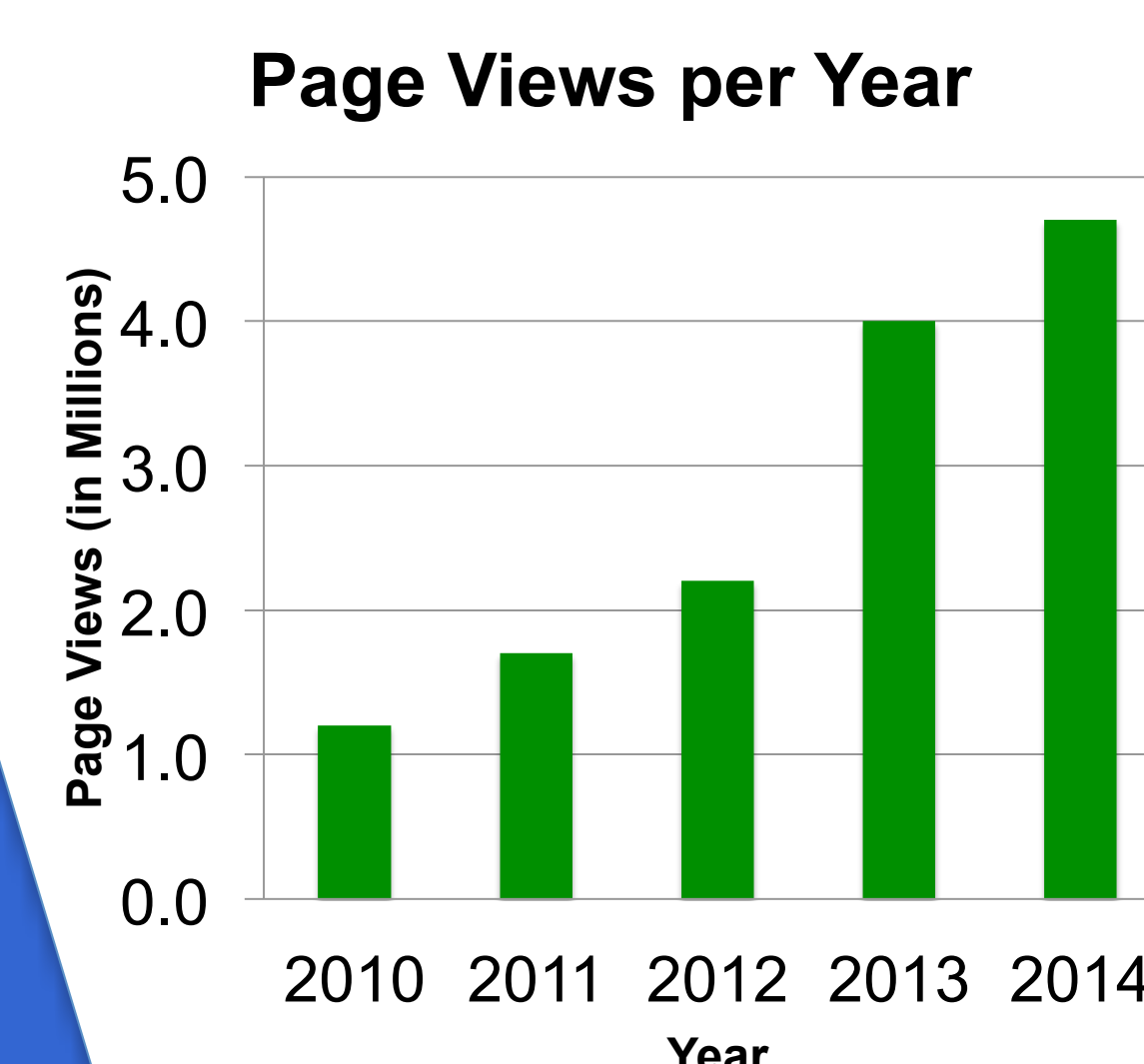


### Regarding pesticide use, specialists can discuss:

- How pesticide types differ (disinfectants, herbicides, insecticides, etc.)
- The importance of reading all label directions, including approved sites for use and required personal protective equipment
- Ways to prevent pesticide poisonings with best practices in storage, transportation, application, and cleanup
- Provide local Household Hazardous Waste contacts for pesticide disposal
- Find appropriate resources in the event of a spill or natural disaster

### Resources available on the NPIC website:

- Written, audio, and video content in English and Spanish
- FAQs: Short, quick answers to frequent pesticide questions
- NPIC's My Local Resources (MLR):<sup>4</sup> >5,000 local resources nation-wide
  - Environmental Agencies
  - Pesticide Enforcement
  - Worker Safety
  - Health Departments



1) <http://npic.orst.edu/PESTapp>

4) <http://npic.orst.edu/mlr.html>

2) <http://npic.orst.edu/reg/tolerance.html>

5) <http://npic.orst.edu/MAPL>

3) <http://npic.orst.edu/reg/wps.html>

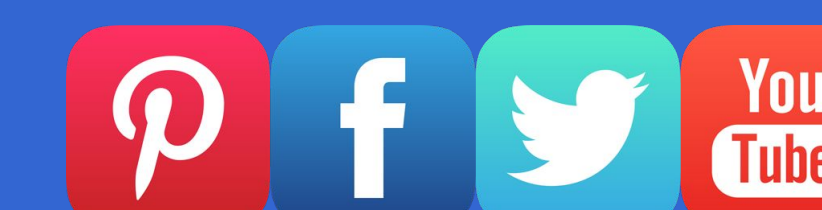
[NPIC.orst.edu](http://NPIC.orst.edu)

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1.800.858.7378

Call or Click for:

- Written, audio, and video content
- English and Spanish websites
- Bilingual specialists over the phone
- PestiByte podcasts and videos
- Inquiries answered in 170 languages



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