



# DO THEY BUG YOU?

(insects, pests, weeds or molds)

## 5 steps to Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

### **1. Inspect and investigate**

- ✓ Look for signs of pests and damage caused by pests
- ✓ Find out where mold, insects or weeds are coming from

### **2. Identify the life cycle of your pest**

- ✓ Learn their biology
- ✓ How does it reproduce, where does it live, and what does it eat?

### **3. Know when to act**

- ✓ It is easier to get rid of a small numbers of pests than large numbers!
- ✓ Rats, mice, and cockroaches can cause diseases and asthma

### **4. Choose a control method(s)**

- ✓ **Eliminate food, water and/or hiding places**
  - Take away water source
  - Clean frequently
- ✓ **Deny entry - Keep them out!**
  - Seal with caulk, fill holes, repair screen openings, use barriers
- ✓ **Eliminate the existing population with traps or biological controls**
- ✓ **When all else fails...pesticides are a final resort**
  - Choose the least toxic control first
  - Be sure to read and follow the product label
  - Use the correct amount
  - Wear protective clothing and respirators
  - Store and use properly -- away from children

### **5. Evaluate**

- ✓ Check to see if control methods are working