



**Integrated Pest Management**  
**A curriculum module for high school science classes**  
from Toxic Free NC, [www.ToxicFreeNC.org](http://www.ToxicFreeNC.org)

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## **Tips for Students: Phone Interviews**

1. Introduce yourself with your first name, your teacher's name, your school, and a little information about your class project.

“I'm ..., I'm in Mrs. Jones' ninth grade biology class at East Chapel Hill High School. We're doing a unit on pests and pest control. My group is studying (schools, parks, restaurants, etc.)....”

2. Tell the person what they can help you learn.

“We're researching what kinds of pests you see in ... (schools, parks, etc.) and how you deal with them so we can understand the biology of pests and pest control better. It would help us a lot if you could tell us about your experiences.”

If yes, ask "do you have a few minutes now to talk, or would it be best to make an appointment to talk another time?"

If no, be sure to thank the person anyway.

3. Ask questions and take notes about the answers. Ask them to repeat anything you don't get down. Ask follow up questions if something isn't clear.

What are the most common pests you see in different seasons?

What do you do to prevent pest problems from developing?

What do you do when there's a problem with a certain pest?

What pesticides do you use? How are they applied?

Do you use Integrated Pest Management?

Do you have a standard set of policies or procedures about pest problems that you follow?

Who makes decisions about your pest control?

What role can students and others play in preventing pests?

If you're calling an agency that does inspections (Health Department, Department of Environment & Natural Resources) ask these questions instead:

What rules do you have about pests and pest control?

How were these rules decided on?

How do you make sure that people are following the rules?

4. Thank them for their time.