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STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN THE MARYLAND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

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Through increased cooperation between the University of Maryland and the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Maryland IPM program strives to promote, support, implement, and regulate IPM efforts to benefit all the citizens of Maryland. In a region undergoing rapid urbanization, these two Maryland institutions promote innovative programs to support "best management strategies" for pest control and therefore safeguard the environment for Maryland stakeholders. At the University level, Maryland Cooperative Extension and Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station provide programs in education, research and outreach to address the dynamics of pest management challenges. The Maryland Department of Agriculture functions as the regulatory and support arm of IPM efforts in Maryland, charged with enforcing and implementing laws and executive orders designed to promote agriculture and protect stakeholders.