

## **GIS as a Method for Improving IPM**

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An effective Integrated Pest Management program reduces the need for use of harmful chemical treatments for the purpose of pest control within museum collections. This is accomplished by various means including housekeeping, monitoring, climate control, and alternative methods of pest eradication such as freezing. In order to be successful, the IPM program must include detailed and consistent records of all potentially harmful organisms observed in and around collection areas. However, it is also very useful to view the data (in this case via a GIS) to more easily conceptualize trends and/or potential or existing problem areas. We feel that this is a valuable addition to our IPM program and that it will assist us, in the long run, in eliminating those conditions that foster museum pests in collection areas.