

CVC workshop to help farmers manage pests

Pest infestations can devastate a profitable farm, and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) is trying to help.

CVC invites grain and dairy farmers to a free Integrated Pest Management (IPM) workshop this coming Monday (Feb. 24) from 7 to 9 p.m. at CVC's Watershed Learning Centre at Terra Cotta Conservation Area, 14452 Winston Churchill Blvd.

Pradeep Kumar, recent graduate from environmental biology masters program at University of Guelph, will present IPM opportunities. From 7 to 8 p.m., Kumar will focus on insect and pest plants affecting grain crops. From 8 to 9 p.m., the discussion will shift gears to insect pests affecting dairy cattle. Participants are invited to attend one or both sessions.

?Pest infestations are a major challenge facing grain and dairy farmers,? CVC?Agricultural Program Coordinator Mark Eastman commented. ?The workshop will help highlight environmentally responsible ways to deal with pests and avoid the devastation they can bring.?

Workshop participants will learn about funding opportunities to support IPM planning and implementation.

The workshop is free, thanks to funding from CVC's regional and municipal partners. Participating farmers should reside in the Credit River watershed. Space is limited. Those interested are asked to register online at <http://pest-management.eventbrite.ca> or by contacting Eastman at 1-800-668-5557 ext. 430 or meastman@creditvalleyca.ca