# **FFL Principle 6- Managing Yard Pests**

# **Pest Detectives Activity Details (High School)**

**Setup:** Divide students into small groups (3-4 students). Provide each group with:

* 1-2 plant samples (or high-quality images) showing different types of pest damage (e.g., aphids, leaf spots, chewed leaves, webbing).
* Magnifying glasses.
* Handout: "Common Florida Landscape Pests & Diseases" (simplified guide).
* Their "IPM Strategy Worksheet."

**Investigation:**

* Instruct groups to examine each plant sample carefully.
* Using the provided guide, they should try to:
  + Identify the potential pest or disease.
  + Describe the type of damage observed.
  + Brainstorm possible "Avoiding" strategies that could have prevented this problem.
  + Propose "Detecting" methods for early identification.
  + Suggest "Treating" strategies, starting with the least toxic options.
  + Encourage discussion within groups, simulating a real-world problem-solving scenario.