Area-Wide Integrated Pest Management Framework Components:
- Population Monitoring
- Field Sanitation
- Protein Bait
- Male Annihilation
- Biological Controls

What is sanitation?
The tophatid fruit fly lays its eggs in fresh fruits and vegetables. The fruit falls to the ground, and the fly larvae crawl out of the fruit and into the ground to pupate. If the fruit is not left on the ground, the hundreds of eggs that a fruit fly can lay never have a chance to develop. Sanitation is the process of disposing of infested fruit so that the fruit fly larvae will not survive.

Why is sanitation important to fruit fly suppression?
Each fruit is capable of hosting many fruit fly eggs. The fruit fly population can increase very rapidly if all eggs survive. Pesticides sprayed on the fruit do not penetrate to kill the larvae. As a result, a majority of the larvae will emerge from the fruit. A preventative solution is to destroy the infested fruit and the larvae before they emerge to pupate in the soil.

What are some sanitation practices I could use?
There are many ways to remove fruit from the field or backyards:

1. Compost: Make sure the compost pile is covered with plastic and "working" (i.e., generating internal heat above 140°F).
2. Animal feed: Be careful to avoid leaving fruit piled on the ground for more than a day.
3. Drowning: Ensure infested fruit are submerged for at least 48 hours. Fruit can become re-infested after treatment.
4. Bagging: When bagging fruit in plastic bags, make sure the opening is sealed tightly and there are no holes in the bags. Larvae can wiggle through very small spaces. After 1 month all the fruit fly larvae in the bags will have died, and the organic waste can be dumped in the field for green manure.

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5. Grinding: Mechanically destroying larvae requires a mechanical process as thorough as a garbage disposal. Crushing or smashing the fruit is not an effective way to kill larvae.
6. Burying: Fruit flies have been known to burrow 12 inches to the surface in loose soil. Therefore, if you prefer to bury cull fruit, make sure that it is buried at least 18 inches deep.
7. "Augmentorium": Use of a tent-like screen structure designed to retain the fruit flies both under and above ground has the added advantages that it allows the natural enemies of the fruit fly to reenter the farm environment, and it does not take the green compost off the farm.