

# "TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

**TOP SECRET**

December 2012



[www.termiteterry.com](http://www.termiteterry.com)

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## Half Of Retail Firewood Is Infested!

Winter is here and many homeowners will be enjoying their fireplaces during the cooler days. But, those homeowners who plan on buying firewood from a "big box" store, corner market or a grocery store might want to be aware of new research published in the Journal of Economic Entomology. In the study, researchers found that **at least 47 percent of all firewood purchased from these sources contained live wood destroying insects and their larvae.**

Now, some of you may be asking why anyone should care about this problem. But, let me ask you how you would feel if you went into your living room to look at your grand piano, wood flooring or fine oak cabinets and you found they were **full of holes**? That's right - it would look as if someone had used an electric drill and started boring holes everywhere! And, if that isn't already bad enough, some of these wood destroying insects can be **very difficult and very expensive to control.**

If firewood is not properly treated, it can harbor destructive insects and pathogens that may be transported long distances and can lead to new infestations in your home. Today, there are no national regulations on the commercial firewood industry that require firewood to be treated before use or sale. Currently, the only efforts are that several states and federal agencies are attempting to reduce the risk of introducing invasive or exotic species of insects by restricting the distance firewood can move from

its origin.

Most stores sell firewood in small bundles. Some firewood is also made available by private parties who obtain permits to collect firewood on public or private lands. Distributors for firewood are clustered on the West Coast and in the Northeastern States. The total amount of firewood used for heating and recreation is not known but the estimates range from 8,000 cords per state to 30 million households using over 57 million cords. There are about 142 bundles in a full cord.

Insects and pathogens are known to survive for varying lengths of time in firewood. **1 to 3 years is the average life expectancy, however, some have been known to survive for up to 5 years.**

In this research paper, their main focus was to determine if retail firewood retains live insects and they wanted to quantify the presence (previous or current) of insect or fungal infestations. The firewood was randomly purchased from 241 retail outlets in 18 states for the National Retail Firewood survey.

Another survey was conducted in the State of Colorado where they purchased 48 bundles in 15 cities.

They also conducted 2 studies of firewood for the Southern Rocky Mountain region which included the states of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Wyoming. One study was conducted in the winter and the other was conducted in the summer. More than 370 samples were

(turn the page)

### 30 Years Ago . . .

Time Magazine's Man of the Year Award  
was given to a machine: the computer

December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1982

### Famous Quote From Larry Bird

*"I've got a theory that if you give 100% all of the time, somehow things will work out in the end."*

3 Time MVP & NBA Champion, born 12-7-1956

## Rave Review!

*"I just wanted to commend you for a "flawless" running company and a superior team of employees.*

*I called "Termite Terry" last Monday to set up a pest inspection for my home. Sassy was able to set up the appointment the same week, which was very much appreciated. Sassy was very professional and sympathetic to my time frame. You see, we are in the process of a refinance.*

*So, Ryan O'Hare came out to my house exactly at the appointment time promised. He was very professional, knowledgeable and was able to sense the urgency of my time frame. Upon doing the pest inspection, Ryan found an area that needed treatment. Instead of making me wait another week; Ryan went out of his way to come back later in the day to treat the problem area. Ryan was willing to work with my "crazy schedule". He did the job in a very professional manner. He was extremely neat, cleaning the area after he was done. He has a very trusting demeanor.*

*Ryan said he would have a copy of the final inspection and invoice emailed to me before the original paperwork was put in the mail. Sure enough; I received the email from your office before noon the following Monday. I will be able to submit this copy for our loan to be processed on time!*

*Also, Diane Conroy is another employee who deserves to be commended! When I called your office this morning to request a couple more things to be included in my invoice; Diane was very kind and sympathetic to my needs. I know Mondays must be very busy for you guys. Nevertheless; Diane was so patient and understanding with me! She kept me posted via telephone as to the status as she worked to complete the inspection report and invoice which were done in such a "timely and professional manner". What an asset you have in Diane!*

*In today's world, there are not a lot of companies being run such as yours.*

*The good "old fashioned" customer service your employees offer is what exemplifies "Termite Terry"! Please commend your fantastic team. I will definitely refer Ryan to my friends and family!*

*God Bless and keep doing what you're doing!"*

Andrea Jacobson  
Yorba Linda

collected for these studies.

## Study Results

Their study showed that the diversity and number of live insects emerging from purchased retail firewood was even greater than they had expected. Close to 47 percent of the firewood was purchased with live insects. They also found that live insects from more than 85 different insect families emerged from the purchased firewood.

The researchers said that pretreating firewood before it is sold would be the prudent choice. They recommend that **firewood should be heat treated to eliminate insects and pathogens.**

"Termite" Terry says that heat treatment would be a good thing for everybody. It would raise the cost of firewood slightly but it would provide consumers with a product that is free of wood destroying beetles and termites. It would also help to prevent the spread of these pests from one region of the country to another.

## "Termite" Terry's Hot Tips!

If you do have a wood burning fireplace, it is very important to **store your firewood outdoors and away from your house.** It is also important to store it off the ground, preferably on a metal rack. You should **only bring firewood into your home when you intend to burn it immediately.** By following these simple steps, you will greatly reduce your chances of being infested by these wood destroying beetles and termites.

For those of you who wish to totally eliminate this problem, you may want to consider **converting your fireplace into using natural gas, instead.**

Do you have a problem with termites or other wood destroying beetles? **Call our office for a complimentary home inspection at (949) 631-7348** and we'll be happy to schedule an inspection at your convenience!



## Man Dies After A Roach-Eating Contest!

A 32 year old man recently died after eating live cockroaches during a contest to win a snake.

The store, which sells reptiles, promoted the contest for days on its popular Facebook page and was offering a prize of an "ivory ball python" to the winner.

Participants competed in several different rounds with different insects. The last contest involved eating the roaches, which were 3 or 4 inches long. The winner ate 60 grams of meal worms, 35 three inch long super worms and part of a bucket of roaches.

The 32-year old won the contest but was nowhere to be seen afterwards. The announcer told the audience that the winner was vomiting somewhere and that they would congratulate him when he returned.

According to the Broward County Sheriff's Office, the winner collapsed in front of the store. He was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead. Authorities are awaiting the autopsy results to determine the cause of death.

Experts are puzzled by the man's death.

"We know cockroaches shed a lot of allergens, but they are not toxic in and of themselves," Bill Kern, a professor of entomology at the University of Florida, told the Miami Herald. "Very few (human) cultures tend to eat cockroaches because they store large amounts of uric acid and nitrogenous waste. And they tend to be scavengers and feed on things most people wouldn't consider to be desirable."

Mike Tringale, vice president of external affairs at the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, told the Associated Press it's possible that the winner "hit his tolerance level to cockroach allergens" and went into

anaphylactic shock.

The winner's death has caused officials at Six Flags Great America in Chicago to review whether to continue with its "Friday Night Feast", a contest they hold weekly that invites guests to eat five Madagascar hissing cockroaches.

"We were sorry to learn about the unfortunate incident at the reptile store in Florida and our hearts go out to the gentlemen's friends and family", park officials said, according to the Sun-Times. "We are confident our eating contests are safe as the insects we use are raised specifically for human consumption. Insects are considered a delicacy in many cultures; however, even though this appears to be an isolated incident, we are reviewing the eating contests at our parks to ensure we maintain a safe environment for our guests."

"Termite" Terry says that contests like this may be fun, but he doesn't recommend it because of the potential risks. He suggested that it might be better to consider holding a hot dog, pancake or pie eating contest, instead.

"Termite Terry" also wanted to remind parents that this man's death should be a reminder to parents that they should try and keep their homes pest-free. He said, "You know how kids are; They always put everything in their mouths and the last thing you want your kids to be doing is eating crickets, spiders or roaches. That is why an effective pest control program is so important for young families."

Do you have an insect problem at your home? Do you have kids crawling on the floor and putting everything in their mouths? If so, you need to **call us at (949) 631-7348** and ask for a **FREE Pest Audit**. This audit will give you a lot of valuable information and you'll learn how you can provide your family with a safer environment!

## How To Help Prevent Head Lice

With school back in session, problems with head lice usually peak in the fall. Kids share a lot with each other and that is how head lice are often spread from one person to another.

Head lice are tiny insects that live in people's hair and feed on their blood. They may also be found in eyebrows and eyelashes. Lice glue their eggs to hair. Fortunately, lice die within two days without feeding so they can't live very long away from your child's head. Their eggs take six to nine days to hatch. It takes another seven or more days for the lice to become egg-laying adults.

Symptoms of head lice are:

- Intense itching of the scalp.
- Small red bumps on the scalp, neck and shoulders.
- Tiny, hard to remove, white eggs on the bottom of hairs.

Head lice are hard to see, so it is best to use a bright light and a magnifying glass. If head lice are found, treatment is recommended. Over the counter treatments are available. If these treatments don't work, you should see a doctor.

### To help prevent head lice:

- a) Never share hair brushes, combs, hats, helmets, bedding or clothing.
- b) Wash clothing and bedding in hot water and dry on a hot cycle.
- c) Dry clean items that can't be washed.
- d) Vacuum carpets and upholstery thoroughly.
- e) Work with your school teachers and officials to help prevent the spread of head lice.

## Celebrating Madame C.J. Walker

Madam C. J. Walker was born Sarah Breedlove, on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1867 and is commonly regarded as the first African-American millionaire.

She was one of six children and her parents and elder siblings were slaves on the Madison Parish plantation, in Louisiana. President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, so Sarah was the first in her family to be born into freedom.

Like many women of the era, Sarah experienced hair loss. Back in those days, most Americans did not have indoor plumbing, central heating or electricity. That is why they infrequently took baths and washed their hair. Unfortunately, this caused many people to develop scalp disease.

Sarah started experimenting with home remedies and products which were already on the market. Eventually, she developed her own shampoo and an ointment that contained sulfur to make the scalp healthier for hair growth.

In 1906, she married a newspaper advertising salesman, named Charles Joseph Walker. This was her third marriage and that is how she became known as Madame C.J. Walker. By this time, she was selling her products throughout the United States.

In 1908, she and her husband settled in Pittsburgh and opened Lelia College to train "hair culturists". Later, in 1910, they moved to Indianapolis and opened her company headquarters and factory.

Over the years, she taught and trained many other black women to build their own businesses. She was also a speaker and gave lectures on political, economic and social issues. During her career, she donated large sums of money to the NAACP, the YMCA, black schools, organizations, orphanages and retirement homes.

She died in 1919, at the age of 51. She was considered to be the first self-made female American millionaire and the wealthiest African-American woman in America.

"Termite" Terry's Insider Information is Published by:

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## Sometimes, It's Better To Call A Professional

A young attorney returned to her apartment building after a night on the town. But, she couldn't get in because she had lent her keys to a friend. Rather than call a **professional** locksmith, she buzzed several different apartments until someone let her into the building.

Her apartment was on the ground floor and her plan was to go through a trash chute that would take her to the cellar. From there, she could go through a window and into her apartment.

The young attorney climbed in and went down the trash chute. On her way down the chute, she got trapped in the trash compactor. This caused a hydraulic piston to activate and the machine crushed her arm.

She was trapped in the compactor for about 45 minutes before emergency workers could get her out. Her arm was crushed almost all the way through. Emergency workers gave her a dose of morphine to help her cope with the excruciating pain. She was taken to a hospital where she underwent surgery.

Let me ask you, "Do you think she would have been better off if she had called a **professional** locksmith?" Sure, the locksmith would have charged a lot to come out in the middle of the night. But, in the long run, she would have saved a fortune and saved her arm.

Ladies and gentlemen, I see this sort of thing happen all the time in our business. Home and business owners will try to save money by doing the work themselves or by hiring un-professional people, only to find out they have to pay to have a **true professional** do the job over again.

"Price" is a one-time thing but "quality" is something you're going to be concerned with for a very long time. If you're looking for quality work with unbelievable guarantees, **call the company with countless "Rave Reviews" at (949) 631-7348** and we'll have one of our **true professionals** do it right for you, the first time.



"Termite" Terry Singleton