

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

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Happy Summer!

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(949) 631-7348

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Ten Tips To Poison-Proof Your Home

The California Poison Control System receives about 900 calls a day for cases concerning poisonings. Most alarming is that over half of all these cases involve children five years and younger. This is an important matter and everyone needs to get involved in making their homes safer so we can help prevent these poisonings.

How Do People Become Poisoned?

The American Association of Poison Control Systems gives us the top twelve substance categories most frequently involved in human exposures:

1. Analgesics (pain killers) (11.73% of all calls)
2. Cosmetics/Personal Care Products (toothpaste, lotion, mouthwash, deodorant) (7.95%)
3. Cleaning Substances (soap, bleach, pine oil, laundry detergent, shampoo) (7.02%)
4. Sedatives/Hypnotics/Antipsychotics (6.13%)
5. Foreign Bodies (coins, silica gel, beads, batteries) (4.1%)
6. Antidepressants (3.92%)
7. Cardiovascular Drugs (3.74%)
8. Topical Preparations (for pain relief, acne, etc.) (3.74%)
9. Antihistamines (3.43%)
10. Pesticides (3.26%)
11. Cold and Cough Preparations (2.73%)
12. Alcohol (rubbing, drinking or wood alcohols) (2.71%)

Ten Tips To Poison-Proof Your Home

1. The California Poison Control Systems' phone number is **1-800-222-1222**. Keep this number on or near all phones. You should also put their number in your cell phone. Their service is fast, free, private and available 24/7.
2. Keep cosmetics, personal care products, prescription and over-the-counter medicines, cleaning products, dietary supplements and vitamins, pesticides and lighter fluid, locked up or out of reach. Household plants should also be kept out of reach.
3. You should always keep cleaning products, gasoline, lighter fluid, antifreeze, paint and paint thinners in their original containers.
4. Do not ever put something that is not food in a food or beverage container, such as a soda bottle, cup or glass.
5. Don't store food and household cleaners in the same cabinets. Some of these products look similar and it is easy to mistake one for the other.
6. If you are visiting or caring for children, put your purse or bags that might contain your medications where children can't reach them.
7. Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Make sure to maintain them and change batteries on a regular basis.

(turn the page)

150 Years Ago . . .

On August 12, 1865, British surgeon Joseph Lister became the first person in the world to use an antiseptic dressing (lint dipped in carbolic acid – now known as phenol) to treat a wound. Lister's work led to the rise of sterile surgery and he later became known as the "father of modern surgery."

Remembering Will Rogers

"Everything is funny, as long as it's happening to somebody else."

Will Rogers, died August 15, 1935

Rave Reviews!

"I was referred to your company by a friend of mine in the neighborhood. She told me that Skip was the contact and that he was very helpful and able to manage a delicate situation with her association members.

From the day I contacted Skip I was impressed with his knowledge and attention to detail. Before contacting Skip I had two other bids from Termite Companies in the area. However, I was not satisfied with their inspection and feel that they missed a lot of what Skip saw.

Skip is one of the only professionals I met that can explain the inner working of the Termite, and I mean everything about them. I would go as far as to call him the Termite Whisperer. He knows them well. I appreciate his integrity and patience and with the many questions I had prior to treatment.

As the tenting date grew near I trusted I was in good hands. The whole office was very organized. Skip had to be out for a few weeks with surgery but was always available. I never felt like he or the office 'forgot about me'. I was impressed with Skip's dedication to me as a client and also with the staff in the office that took my calls and questions as well.

We had a complicated situation because we live in a duplex. Skip handled all of the details with tenting for the tenants in the front unit as well as our unit. He did a fantastic job and everything was done on time without any issues."

Thank you,

Jennifer Irani
Newport Beach

8. Don't ever call medicine candy. This is a very bad habit to get into and it could send the wrong message to young children.
9. Don't take medicine when your children are present – you know how kids love to imitate what adults do.
10. Devices that use small batteries, such as toys and remote controls, should be kept out of the reach of children. Please remember that disc batteries are poisonous and they can be a choking hazard.

These ten tips are easy to do and if you'll make an effort to follow them, your home will be a much safer place for your family and pets.

Feral Cats Hired For Rodent Patrol

Each year, thousands of unwanted cats are euthanized in animal shelters to help control their population. Many of these cats are fine animals but the problem has always been that there aren't enough people willing to adopt them.

One way to save the lives of these felines is the "Working Cats Program" of Los Angeles. The program was created by Melya Kaplan in 1999 and it is a green program that relocates sterilized and vaccinated feral cats to residences or businesses with large rat populations.

The program's organizers tell us that cats don't normally eat rats. Instead, they claim that the rodents are simply repelled by the cats' odor, and leave the site.

This program was first implemented in 1999, at the Flower Mart in downtown Los Angeles. The Flower Mart had a large rat problem and traditional rodent control programs were unable to solve the problem. Ms Kaplan brought in sterilized feral cats and the rat problem was solved.

The program's administrators get cats from the shelter that are deemed feral (unsocialized), and that are going to be euthanized because they're not adoptable. These cats are sterilized, micro chipped and vaccinated before

being put on duty.

To acclimate the cats to their new home, they are kept in large holding cages for a minimum of three weeks so they can become accustomed with the sights, smells and sounds of their new location. After that, the cats are released into their territory where they will remain. The new owners of the cats are required to provide them with food and fresh water.

This program has been successfully implemented at the Crossroads School Campus, the Los Angeles Police Department (Wilshire, Foothill and Southeast Divisions), the Self Realization Lake Shrine in the Pacific Palisades, and various residences and small businesses.

Have you been to Disneyland, lately? Feral cats patrol the park and it is a partnership that may go back to the days of Walt Disney. Some say that Walt first discovered scores of cats in Sleeping Beauty's Castle and he refused to let them be killed. Currently, Disneyland has five feeding stations set up for their cats.

If you have a lot of rodents running around the outside of your home or business, adopting a feral cat may be a good idea. The Humane Society always recommends you have feral cats spayed or neutered to help keep our cat population manageable. Have your cat vaccinated, keep it well fed and you may have the solution to your rodent problem that you've been looking for.



Giant Hero Rats Sniff Out Landmines

It may seem hard to believe, but after decades of war, Cambodia still has an estimated four to six million landmines and unexploded munitions littering its fields, forests and riverbeds. This is a major problem because over 64,000 people have been killed or injured by these explosive remnants.

The Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) has cleared 2.6 million landmines and unexploded ordnance during the past 20 years. They have been looking for a faster and safer way to clear these explosives and the CMAC believes they have found an answer; African giant pouched rats.

During a recent demonstration, one of these rats was seen scampering between two handlers, running up and down the length of a measuring tape they held between them. Suddenly, the rat stopped, stood on his hind legs and sniffed the air. The rat sensed something nearby. Finally, he put his paws to the ground and started scratching the earth. The rat had just marked the presence of TNT.

Metal detectors are often used to detect landmines. Unfortunately, these detectors beep for every coin, can and piece of foil found in the ground, as well. Rats may prove to be much more efficient because they are trained to only locate TNT. When the rats scratch the ground to send their signal, there is usually a landmine beneath.

The rats are fast, too. One rat can search 200 square meters in 20 minutes while a deminer with a metal detector may take 1-4 days to search the same area.

"I was amazed when I learned that the rats could sniff landmines," said Sean Enah, who has over 20 years of

experience clearing Cambodia's minefields. "It's good news for Cambodia and the people who live near minefields."

The President's Economic Stimulus Plan

Presidential politics are running at full steam and it seems like everyone wants to be our next president. Are any of them going to keep their promises and make changes? Who knows? That is why President Termite Terry is going to continue with his highly successful economic stimulus plan. Here are just a few of your fellow citizens who have benefited recently:

- Jennifer Irani of Newport Beach referred us to Catou Greenberg of Westminster.
- Cathy Grunwald of Huntington Beach recommended our service to Debbie Marsteller of Costa Mesa.
- Mike Healy of Fountain Valley suggested our services to Laura Haug of Laguna Niguel.
- Richard Aragan of Buena Park recommended our services to the Reformed Baptist Church of La Mirada.
- Henrietta Baramki of Huntington Beach referred us to her neighbor across the street, Rhonda Halverson.

Those who referred us will receive a **FREE \$50 Gas Card!** To participate, all you have to do is to refer us to your family, friends or neighbors. And, if they have us do termite treatments, wood repairs or start a regular pest control service, you'll get your **FREE tank of gas, too!**

National Presidential Joke Day!

August 11th is National Presidential Joke Day. The holiday began in 1984 when Ronald Reagan was preparing for one of his radio broadcasts. When doing a sound check he joked, "My fellow Americans, I'm pleased to tell you today that I've signed legislation that will outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes." It was just a joke but someone leaked out what he said off the air and as you can imagine, the Russians didn't laugh much.

Here are some fun moments in presidential history:

- "Being president is like running a cemetery: you've got a lot of people under you and nobody's listening." – Bill Clinton
- "When they call the roll in the Senate, the Senators do not know whether to answer 'present' or 'not guilty.'" – Teddy Roosevelt
- "My esteem in this country has gone up substantially. It is very nice now when people wave at me, they use all their fingers." – Jimmy Carter
- "I have left orders to be awakened at any time in case of national emergency - - even if I'm in a Cabinet meeting." – Ronald Reagan
- "If I were two faced, would I be wearing this one?" – Abraham Lincoln
- "There are few things in life harder to find and more important to keep than love. Well, love and a birth certificate." – Barack Obama
- "I just received the following wire from my generous Daddy: Dear Jack, Don't buy a single vote more than is necessary. I'll be dammed if I'm going to pay for a landslide." – John F. Kennedy
- "Thank you for your email. This internet of yours is a wonderful invention." – George W. Bush to Al Gore during the 2000 presidential campaign.

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Balcony Collapse Kills Six Students

A balcony on the fourth story of an apartment building collapsed, killing six students and injuring seven. The 13 victims were standing on the balcony during a birthday celebration when it failed.

According to investigators, the balcony's support joists were completely broken off, approximately 16-20 inches from the building's exterior wall. This caused the balcony to flip upside down and it slammed onto the balcony below. 13 people were thrown off when the balcony flipped and they fell 40 feet down to the pavement.

Building and Safety Inspectors say that the deck's support joists had decayed to the point of severe dry rot. The balcony, made up of a concrete slab over hardboard, waterproof sheets and wooden joists, should have been able to support the weight of the students. However, they believe that a lack of ventilation inside the structure was possibly the cause of excess moisture which led to the dry rot. This apartment building was newly constructed in 2006.

This case is already in court and the county's district attorney is looking into filing manslaughter charges.

Ladies and gentleman, dry rot is a serious problem and I've always said it is like a "cancer of wood". Once it starts, it can spread rapidly and it will turn a solid wooden beam into a material that is as soft and weak as a "kitchen sponge". If you have a problem with dry rot on your home or building, please don't ignore it. You need to have it treated and replaced before it gets worse.

When was the last time your home or building was inspected for termites and dryrot? If it has been more than a year, it is time to **call us at (949) 631-7348**.



"Termite" Terry Singleton