

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

December 2011



"Merry Christmas!"



(949) 631-7348

www.termiteterry.com

"Home of Your Ironclad, Money-Back Guarantee"

Inside This Issue...

- Enjoy The Holidays. . . Pest Free! 1
- Rave Reviews! 2
- The "Creepiest Careers"! 2
- O.C. Home Prices Down 3.8%! 3
- Fun Christmas Tree Facts 3
- Be Careful Of Used Furniture! 4

How To Keep Your Home Pest Free During The Holidays!

It is winter time in California and now that the weather has cooled down, most of us will be spending more time indoors. During these cooler days, you'll also find that many different pests are going to want to join you indoors because they are looking for food and warmth.

Unfortunately, with our doors and windows closed while we all try to stay warm, these "*unwelcomed pests*" will increase the chances for disease to spread. That is why our winter may be the most advantageous time of the year to protect your home against "*unwelcomed pests*" and disease.

Rats, cockroaches, bed bugs, spiders and dust mites can negatively affect the health of a family. Cockroaches are especially frustrating for homeowners to deal with and are known to spread Salmonella. They can also contribute to the development of allergies and asthma, particularly in children.

During these cool months, it is very common for us to find roof rats living in a home's attic. It is also very common for us to find where rats have chewed their way through heating system air ducts so they can set up their nests, inside. If you'll take a look inside one of these infested heating ducts, you'll find a lot of rodent droppings, urine and sometimes, their blood. Now, I don't want to gross you out, but stop and think of what happens when you turn on your heater when you have a mess like that inside of your heating ducts. That's right! The heater

will be blowing all of that dust from the rodent droppings, urine and blood right into your house. And, all of your family will be inhaling that stuff all night long! Rodents are notorious for spreading diseases, such as Arena Virus, Hantavirus, Leptospirosis, Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis, Murine Typhus, Plague, Rat Bite Fever and Salmonellosis.

Ten Things You Can Do To Help Keep Your Home Pest Free This Winter:

1. Guard against importing pests by checking incoming materials for "hitchhiking" bugs. Many pests can be carried in luggage, laundry and groceries and others, such as Argentine ants, may be introduced in nursery stock.
2. Trim trees, bushes and vines away from buildings to discourage insect and rodent passage.
3. Remove plants that attract insects because of their fruit or nectar, or because they harbor honeydew-producing insects (e.g. fig trees, cherry laurel, bamboo, oleander).
4. Eliminate tree stumps, leaf piles, boards on the ground and other favored nest sites outdoors.
5. Seal cracks in walkways and driveways and fill rot holes in trees where these provide harborage for many different pests.
6. Store firewood off the ground and away from your building. Check firewood for pests before bringing it indoors.

(Turn the page)

98 Years Ago, On December 1st, 1913 . . .

Henry Ford invented the first automobile assembly line which reduced the time to build a car from ten hours to just two.

"All the adversity I've had in my life, all my troubles and obstacles, have strengthened me... You may not realize it when it happens, but a kick in the teeth may be the best thing in the world for you."

Walt Disney, born December 5th, 1901

Rave Reviews!

We've had our house for more than 10 years and decided it was time for a termite inspection. Sure enough, there was damage in one of the window frames and the attic. We got quotes from three companies. Termite Terry was not the cheapest, but they did provide the most information and the most thorough inspection of the three. Your specialist, Skip Haffke, was very knowledgeable and made us feel comfortable with the whole process. Everything went like clockwork, and we had our house back in the time frame they promised.

Sorin Chira
Irvine

My wife and I recently had Termite Terry do a whole house fumigation for us. I found they were helpful, attentive, and did exactly as promised. Joe came out ahead of time to explain the entire process and answer a ton of questions we had for them. He even helped bag up stuff we forgot the morning the tent went on. There was no damage to our house or any of our stuff. We were very pleased with their service.

Rob Waterman
Huntington Beach

I used Termite Terry for my house and I was very pleased by their service. They were very professional and courteous. They came as promised on time to evaluate my house and gave me an informative presentation about the procedure and what I needed to know about this process. I asked them to come back for more questions and they agreed. They were very thorough about the contract and all the steps it takes to get the work done. All the work done was done as promised, on time and with great care. No mess was left behind and they checked back to make sure everything was taken care of. I highly recommend their services.

Ray Faraz
Irvine

7. Screen windows and vents. Seal crevices in foundations and around doors, windows and vents to discourage pest entry.
8. Correct outside moisture problems, such as leaking flashing, clogged gutters and downspouts and soil-wood contact.
9. Ensure good ventilation in attics and eaves. Eliminate moisture problems caused by plumbing leaks or condensation in bathrooms and kitchens.
10. Keep food and garbage in tightly fitting containers, especially overnight when many pests are most active.

By correcting these problems and conditions, you will greatly reduce the number of pests entering your home and you will substantially reduce the amount of insecticides needed to control your pest problems. You will also be doing your part to provide a better, safer environment for you and your family.

Are you having problems with pests during this cold winter? Would you like to have some help in dealing with these pests? If so, call our office and ask for a **complimentary** "57 Point Pest Audit". Your home or business will be inspected, inside and out, top to bottom and you'll learn many ways to help you keep your home pest free. To schedule your complimentary pest audit, call our office at **(949) 631-7348** and we'll schedule an appointment at your convenience!

Our Nation's Creepiest Careers

Unemployment in the U.S. has exceeded 8 percent since February 2009. That is the longest stretch of such elevated joblessness since monthly records began in 1948. In California, our unemployment rate is currently at 11.9 percent!

Do you know anyone who is currently out of work and looking for a job? Most people are disgusted when you suggest they consider a career working with real life creepy crawlers.

But, there are some who find something fascinating about working in this *eerie underworld*, where they are in close proximity with bugs and creatures of all types.

If you don't have herpetophobia, arachnophobia or aren't grossed out when you see a collection of slithery creatures, then maybe one of the following careers is right for you. Here is a list of the **Six Top Creepy-Crawly Careers**, provided to you by CareerCast.com:

1. **Forensic Entomologist.** This person's job is to study insects which invade a person's body and take up residence after death. By using their knowledge of insects, these professionals can determine the time of a person's death. Wouldn't it be fun to be the star of your own C.S.I. series?
2. **Arachnologist.** These are biologists who study arachnids (mites, scorpions, spiders, etc.). Some arachnids (mites) are so small that you almost need a magnifying glass to see them. Others, such as the Indian scorpion are almost 12 inches long! If you don't mind having things like this crawling all over your desk everyday, this job may be your dream job!
3. **Pest Control Specialist.** In this job, your job will be to protect the public's health by controlling and removing many different types of pests, located in apartments, homes, businesses, landscaping, etc. You will also be expected to maintain the structural integrity of many types of buildings. If you don't mind crawling through tight attics and filthy crawl spaces and you've got a "strong stomach", there are many employment opportunities awaiting you!
4. **Reptologist.** These folks study reptiles. Maybe you'd like to work in a place, such as a zoo,

museum or in the wilderness? If so, this job has your name written all over it!

5. **Road Kill Removal Specialist.** In this job, you'll be expected to extricate and remove dead animals from highways, roadways and other passageways. Please forgive me for asking, "Was this one of the "shovel ready jobs" our President promised you? If you've got a shovel and don't mind seeing some very messy stuff with maggots crawling all over it, thank the President and hit the road!
6. **Field Entomologist.** In this job, you'll be expected to study insects and their lifestyles. Where will you be working? The only answer I can give you is that any place that has bugs would probably be a good place to start. This could actually be a very good career for you, especially if you got good at it. Currently, there is a huge shortage of students in our university system and there are many great career opportunities awaiting those who graduate with a good degree.

There you go! After hearing about these great employment opportunities, how could anyone say that there aren't any good jobs out there? ☺

O.C. Home Prices Drop 3.8%

DataQuick's Orange County home buying report showed that as of October, 2011, the median selling price for all residences was down 3.8% compared to a year ago. The total number of residences sold was at 2,505 and that is down 2% from the previous year.

The current median price of a home in Orange County is 34% below June 2007's peak of \$645,000. The good

news is that the latest median price is still **15% above** January 2009's low price of \$370,000.

Thinking of buying a new home? Builder prices for new homes are **up 43%** from their low price of \$424,000 in June, 2009. Of course, prices are still 30% lower than peak prices in March, 2006. Builder's new home sales only represented 6% of all residences sold in the past 12 months. From 1988-2010, builder's sales represented 14% of Orange County's home sales.

One thing you'll find very surprising about this survey is that 12 of 83 Orange County Zip Codes had both rising sales and rising prices during this period. Prices in the 92625 area (Corona Del Mar), are **up 26.8%** and their total number of sales are **up 10.5%**. The 92649 zip code (Huntington Beach) did very well with prices going **up 22.4%** and total sales **up 35%**!

Home prices in some areas were hit hard, such as Foothill Ranch, where you'll see prices are down 49.6%. Other notables were 92662 (Newport Beach), down 40.6% and 92780 (Tustin) down 33.5%.

Today's real estate market is very unstable and no one can honestly predict when things will get better. One thing that almost everyone will agree on is that the real estate market will never improve until we put Americans back to work and reduce our unemployment rates.



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

"Termite" Terry Pest Control, Inc.

785 W. 17th St. #G, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

(949)631-7348 www.termitetry.com



Fun Christmas Tree Facts

- Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition, back in the 16th century.
- Many believe that Martin Luther was the first to add candles to a tree.
- The first record of a Christmas tree being on display in the U.S. was in the 1830's, by German settlers in Pennsylvania.
- Thomas Edison's assistants came up with the idea of using electric lights.
- In 1912, the first community Christmas tree in the U.S. was erected in New York City
- In 1923, Calvin Coolidge started the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, which is now held every year at the White House.
- Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since about 1850.
- This year, approximately 27 million real Christmas trees will be sold in the United States.
- Over 8 million fake trees will be sold in the U.S. (About 80% of these are manufactured in China).
- Today, close to 350 million Christmas trees are growing on U.S. tree farms. All 50 states have farms.
- For every real tree harvested, 1 to 3 seedlings are planted.
- There are close to 15,000 farms growing Christmas trees in the U.S. with over 100,000 people employed full or part-time in the industry.
- The average growing time for a 6-7 foot tree is 7 years (It can take as many as 15 years or as few as 4 years).
- The tallest living Christmas tree is the 122 foot, 91 year old Douglas fir in Woodinville, Washington.
- Oregon, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Washington are the top Christmas tree producing states.
- Balsam fir, Douglas fir, Fraser fir, Noble fir, Scotch pin, Virginia pine and White pine are the most common Christmas tree species.

A FREE Monthly Newsletter for Friends and Clients of:

"Termite" Terry Pest Control, Inc.

785 W. 17th St. #G
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Office: (949)631-7348 Fax: (949)722-6190

www.termiteterry.com



Use your smart phone
and click here →



Your
Newsletter
is Enclosed

Full Line of Pest Control Service || Termite Fumigations and Treatments || Dryrot and Termite Damage Repairs

****At Termite Terry, We'll Get Rid Of All Your Termites Or
Your Treatment Is FREEEEEE!!****

Be Careful When Shopping For Used Furniture . .

Recently, one of our clients decided to go on the internet and do some shopping for used bedroom furniture. After making some calls, she found someone that had what she wanted. She went over to this person's home and bought several items.

One of the items she purchased was a wooden headboard and it fit nicely on her bed. However, only a few days after installing the new headboard, she noticed that she was waking up with bite marks on her body. After doing a little investigating, she found a few live bed bugs crawling in her bed. That is when she decided it was time to call us for help.

D.J. Salamin, our pest control specialist, went over to her home to see what we could do. After inspecting her home, he found the source of the problem - her new headboard was loaded with bed bugs and bed bug eggs! D.J.'s treatment took about four hours to perform and he told her that she would need at least two followup visits (Bed bugs are by far and away the toughest pests we have to deal with and you never want to declare any treatment successful until you can go at least two months without being bitten.).

Ladies and gentlemen, you've got to be very careful when buying used furniture. That is especially true when you are buying used bedroom furniture. Bed bugs like living close to humans and that is why you'll often find them in beds, headboards, lamps, clocks, nightstands or anything located near a bed. You really need to check all of these items carefully and if there is any doubt, they really should be treated before you bring them into your home. I know everyone is looking for "good deals", but you've got to watch what you're doing or you'll find your "good deals" are going to cost you a lot more than you bargained for.

Need help with bed bugs? Call us at (949) 631-7348 and we'll schedule an appointment at your convenience.



"Termite" Terry Singleton