

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

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How To Keep Ants Out Of Your Home Or Business

Ants are among the most prevalent pests in households. Ants also frequently invade restaurants, hospitals, warehouses, and other buildings where they can find food and water.

Why are ants such a big problem and why do so many home and business owners have such a hard time controlling them? One of the main reasons is because most people don't really understand the basic biology and behavior of ants. In this article, we'd like for you to learn some of these basics so you can keep your home or business free of ants this summer.

Ants 101

Ants are a member of the family of insects, known as Hymenoptera. Bees and wasps are also members of that same family. There are over 12,000 species of ants worldwide. In California, we have about 200 species but less than a dozen are considered to be pests.

You should keep in mind that ants readily adapt to changes in conditions. If the weather changes, their food supply is altered, or if something is moved around – They will adapt, keep on working and building their families.

Another important fact is that many ant colonies will merge with other colonies. For example, let's say you find an ant hill and destroy it. Yes, some of the ants will die, but the remaining ants will simply move in and start living with another colony next door. No wonder these pests are so frustrating to deal with!

NOTE:

- Most ants don't like living indoors. They just come in to get what they need and then leave.
- You need to find out how the ants are getting inside.
- Sealing up their entry points is the best control method.

If you are having a problem with ants on the inside, the first thing you should do is to start by inspecting the rooms where the ants are. Pay extra attention to areas under the edges of your carpet because it is common to find ants foraging in these areas. Look carefully along baseboards and bottoms or edges of cabinets. A spatula is a great tool to use when inspecting tiny cracks, joints or seams.

Ants use pheromones to lay out trails that connect to their colony. The primary function of these trails is to lead the ants to food.

Don't Manage Ant Trails!

It is very common to see people spray down trails of ants with their favorite store-bought product. This usually doesn't work. Yes, you may kill off **1 percent** of the ants by spraying down their trails, but the rest of the ants will simply start taking a detour around the areas you sprayed, and you will still have an ant problem.

You'll find that most ants are entering your home or business from points on the exterior. Look for areas where
(turn the page)

100 Years Ago . . .

On August 13, 1918, Opha May Johnson enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, becoming the first female U.S. Marine. More than 300 women joined the Marine Corps Women's Reserves during WWI.

One Of The Greatest Hitters In Baseball

"If I was being paid thirty-thousand a year, the very least I could do was hit .400."

Ted Williams, born August 30, 1918

Rave Reviews!

“My dad was so incredibly happy with the board replacements and treatments done by Terry and his team last month. We had this done over 10 years ago as well from a different company, and he was raving about how much better job that was done this time around.”

Emily Banks, CPA
Tustin

“Done well and professionally! I’m happy with their work again, for the 2nd time. Termite Terry did termite fumigation and wood repairs with my other house about a year ago.

Marie at the office was responsive and efficient, never missed my calls or emails. Erik, very professional and knowledgeable, took his time to inspect my house and explained to me in detail. This is an unusually high two-story house with an attic, but he put in an effort and managed successfully to inspect my upper top facias and rafters with his standard equipment (designed for normal properties). He informed me in advance how a particular wood repair would be done due to my roof tile configuration. He also stopped by to check in with the crew performing the wood repairs.

The fumigation and wood repair crews were experienced and professional. They wore their shoe covers to protect my carpet. They counted the number of broken tiles before and after the fumigation. I particularly like this idea even though they are not responsible for it.

Termite Terry understands the importance of quality work and customer satisfaction. Way to go!”

T. Truong
Westminster

you see cracks in the foundation, holes in walls, cracks in the slab, and points where wires and pipes enter the structure. Pay special attention to areas where plants or trees are touching the house. You should also look under mulch, firewood and stored items/clutter.

You’ll note that in the previous paragraph, we told you to pay special attention to plants or trees that are touching the structure. The reason why this is so important is because so many of these plants are infested with aphids, mealy bugs, white flies and scales – All of which produce honeydew. Honeydew is a sugary-sweet, sticky liquid these plant infesting pests secrete, and it is a favorite food of many ant species.

So, think of it this way; **if you have a candy factory (plants and trees with honeydew) growing next to the structure, you are always going to have an ant problem.** The ants will find it to be simply irresistible! That is why it is so important to keep plants cut back – away from your structure.

If your plants are infested, you should really consider using a product that will help to control these pests, such as a **systemic insecticide**. These products are applied by drenching or injecting the soil beneath the plants. The plants will absorb these products and then, when plant infesting pests start eating your plants, they will ingest these products and die off. That will significantly reduce the amount of honeydew. And, with less food to eat, the populations of ants will then begin to dwindle.

How To Gain Control!

1. A thorough inspection is the first step. You need to find out how these pests are getting into your home or business. In most cases, you will find them coming in from the exterior. If you find cracks, holes or other openings where ants are gaining access, you need to seal off these entry points.
2. Identify the kind of ant you are dealing with. This is very important because there is no single treatment plan that will

work for all ant species. In fact, if you perform the wrong treatment or use an incorrect product, you can easily make your problems even worse.

3. Determine why the ants are attracted to the area. Is it because you have an excessive moisture problem? Is it because you have a food source problem, such as honey dew infested plants? Once you have figured out why they like the area so much, you need to correct the problem. By doing this, you will reduce the amount of insecticides needed to gain control and greatly improve your results.
4. Perform a treatment using the least toxic, and the lowest amounts of insecticides possible. We strongly recommend using non repellent products because they are “stealth like”, and won’t cause ants to scatter or spread out to other areas (Ants can’t detect these products and won’t know they’ve been exposed until it’s too late). Always read and follow the manufacturer’s instructions, carefully.
5. Evaluate your results. You’re not always going to get perfect results on your first effort. Ants are very persistent, and you may have to perform additional treatments.

Keep in mind that today’s pesticides are designed to breakdown after only 30 to 60 days. That is why we recommend that pest control services be done on either on a monthly or every other month basis.

Are you having a problem with ants or other pests and need help? **Call our office at (949) 631-7348** and we’ll schedule a Pest Audit for you. And, please remember that our Pest Audits are always **FREE** for qualified home and business owners.

Tick Bites Triggering Red Meat Allergies

Ticks are vectors of diseases, such as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. But now, a new threat appears to be emerging from ticks whose bites can cause people to develop an allergy to red meat.

Dr. Tara Narula, a researcher from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has discovered more than 5,000 cases of this allergy. Two years ago, only 3,500 cases were reported.

Medical experts tell us that this meat allergy is an allergy to the alpha-gal carbohydrate that is found in cows, pigs, sheep, and other non-primates. It is not found in humans. They theorize that if a tick bites an animal with the alpha-gal carbohydrate and then bites a human, it will inject the carbohydrate into the person's bloodstream. The human body then mounts an antibody response that is activated after the person consumes red meat.

This disease is being spread by the "lone star tick". These ticks are found in many of the eastern states but are most common in the South. Some studies show that these ticks are spreading to new areas as our temperatures climb.

Hives, skin rash, stomach problems, headaches, and trouble breathing, are symptoms of this allergy. Currently, there are no cures or treatments available. The only thing you can do is to avoid red meat.

Dr. Narula said, "In some cases it could be permanent. But in most cases we think it will dissipate over time, usually within a couple of years. But if you get tick bites again, it's going to take longer to go away."

"The important thing is to do tick checks", Dr. Narula said. "When you come in from the outdoors, take a shower, put your clothes in the dryer on high-heat for ten minutes, avoid

high grassy areas, stay on trails and treat your dogs."

President's Economic Stimulus

Recent news reports have shown positive growth of our nation's economy. That is good news for all of us but President Termite Terry is still not satisfied. He is going to continue his efforts to improve the economy because he believes we can do even better.

Here are just a few more of your fellow citizens who have benefited from his Economic Stimulus Plan:

- Richard and Kathy Kreigel of Laguna Niguel referred us to Chris Coppock of Laguna Niguel.
- Jaime Rodriguez of Costa Mesa recommended our service to Osbaldo Rodriguez of Huntington Beach.
- Patricia Conroy of Costa Mesa referred us to Gloria Walz of Costa Mesa.
- Patti Ball of Mission Viejo referred our service to Eamon Odonvan of Mission Viejo.
- David Salamin of Costa Mesa recommended our services to Kristi De Vito and Mr. & Mrs. Porter of Costa Mesa.
- Jantiene Pozzvoli of Newport Beach Referred her neighbor, Shari Horn of Newport Beach.

The President's plan is easy and with your help, we can **double the number of people who get FREE GAS each month**. All you have to do is simply refer us to someone who needs a termite treatment, wood repairs, or a monthly pest control service. And, if they hire us, we'll send you a **\$50.00 Gas Card**. That is real economic stimulation you can bank on!

August Is National Catfish Month

To honor the hard work and innovations of America's catfish farmers, the month of August was designated by congress as National Catfish Month. Here are some fun facts about catfish:

- Ninety-four percent of all U.S. farm-raised catfish are raised in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.
- Today, the farm-raised catfish industry in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi employs nearly 10,000 people and contributes more than \$4 billion to each state's economy.
- Catfish are named for their cat-like whiskers that protrude from their snouts.
- It takes about 18 to 24 months for catfish to reach an average size of 1½ to 2 pounds each.
- Farm raised catfish are taught to eat feed pellets that float on top of the water. Wild catfish are bottom feeders.
- One catfish can lay up to 4,000 eggs a year per pound of body weight.
- Catfish is a delicious source of lean protein that is low in saturated fat. It is also packed with omega-3 fatty acids.
- Catfish is now the 5th most popular fish in America.
- Catfish are raised in fresh water ponds that are about four to six feet deep.
- Farm-raised catfish feed is made from soybean meal, with some added corn and rice ingredients.
- The National Audubon Society, Monterey Bay Aquarium, and Environmental Defense all recommend farm-raised catfish as a safe environmental choice.

So, are you going to have your catfish fried, blackened, grilled, broiled, baked, stuffed, or put it in your fajitas? All sounds good to me. Let's start eating!

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I Guarantee It.”**

Swarm Of Killer Bees Attack A Cleaning Lady

A 52-year-old cleaning lady was recently attacked by a swarm of killer bees, leaving the woman in critical condition.

Witnesses say that this cleaning lady was in the house and working with three other ladies, when she went out to her car to get a mop. She then opened up the trunk and was looking around when the bees attacked her.

The owner of this home heard the cleaning lady screaming, and another one of the cleaning ladies grabbed a water hose and tried spraying the bees off of her. That didn't help, so they called 911.

When the firefighters arrived, they saw that the cleaning lady's face was completely covered in bees. They had no time to put on their protective equipment, so they grabbed a carbon dioxide extinguisher, and quickly started spraying the cleaning lady to try and get the bees off of her.

The cleaning lady, and four of the firefighters, were transported to a local hospital. The cleaning lady, who was stung over 200 times, is expected to survive. The firefighters were treated and released.

Witnesses say that the bees had been living in an underground gas meter, that was located near the area where the cleaning ladies parked their car.

The part of this story that bothers me is that the owner of this home stated that she had previously noticed the bees living in this underground meter but did nothing about it. Ladies and gentlemen, if you ever see a colony of bees living around your home, do yourself and your friends a favor by calling a professional for help before someone gets seriously hurt or killed. This was a tough cleaning lady, and she's lucky to be alive!



“Termite” Terry Singleton