

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

May 2020

Memorial Day



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The Connection Between Pests and Foodborne Illness

The Centers of Disease Control (CDC) tells us that foodborne illness is a major cause of disease in the United States. Each year, more than 48 million Americans are infected with a foodborne illness. Of those who become ill, 128,000 will need to be hospitalized, and foodborne illness will claim about 3,000 lives per year.

70 percent of the foodborne illnesses, and 50 percent of foodborne illness deaths come from two categories of food: produce and meat/poultry. These are two of the most common types of food prepared in homes and restaurants.

Foodborne illness is a disease caused by consuming food or drink contaminated with bacteria, toxins, viruses, prions, or parasites. Food can become contaminated at any point during production, however, unsanitary conditions combined with disease-carrying pests can lead to widespread outbreaks. Insects and rodents are major factors in how bacteria are spread through food and beverage processing facilities, warehouses, restaurants, and homes.

The Four Main Types of Pests That Spread Foodborne Illness

1. Rodents

Rodents destroy about 20 percent of the world's food supply, and are carriers of over 35 diseases. The three primary rodents of concern are the Norway rat, the roof rat, and the house mouse. These rodents are known to urinate

and defecate frequently, and if they are left uncontrolled, a large amount of excrement can accumulate quickly. Food contamination then occurs because the bacteria from all of these droppings spreads so easily.

Here are four basic steps needed to control rodent infestations:

- **Eliminate food sources.** Start by properly storing food, including food for pets, in sealed containers. Sanitation is also important. Clean up any spilled food, collect refuse, and dispose of it in sealed trash cans that are located outside.
- **Remove clutter** to eliminate breeding and nesting places.
- **Rodent proof your structure** to prevent them from getting inside. Mice can get through openings the size of a pencil, and rats can get through holes the size of a dime. These openings should all be sealed with solid materials, such as cement, metal, or wire mesh. Many rodent problems are caused by trees and plants that are touching or growing over roofs. These all should be cut back about four feet, with no branches hanging over the house, to prevent rodent access to the roof.
- **Trap and remove any rodents left in the structure.** When done properly, trapping is very effective in eliminating rodents. The use of poisons on interiors of structures is not recommended because the rodents may wind up dying inside of walls, etc.

(turn the page)

80 Years Ago . . .

On May 15, 1940, the first McDonald's restaurant opened in San Bernardino, California. Burgers sold at 15¢, fries at 10¢, an ice-cold Coke for 10¢, and triple-thick shakes were only 20¢!

Quote From A Great Entertainer

"Part of show business is magic. You don't know how it happens."

Sammy Davis, Jr., died on May 16, 1990

Rave Reviews!

"We were very impressed with Terry, the owner, and Brayden, the technician. They did a thorough inspection, discussion of the tenting process, and coordination with our roofer, as we had 200 tiles broken 10 years ago with the tenting process by a national company. They took extra precautions so there was minimal roof tile breakage. The tenting team, owner, and roofer met at our house before hand and made a walking plan for the roof. We were very impressed with their commitment to tent with minimal damage to roof tiles and plants, etc.

Terry communicated with us, sent us photos, and followed up every step of the way.

I would highly recommend Termite Terry's as a consideration for anyone looking for an honest termite company in Orange County."

Susan Klein
Huntington Beach

"We recently had our home and rental property fumigated by Termite Terry. From our very first phone contact with Marie, the entire job was handled efficiently and professionally. Terry and Brayden did a thorough inspection and clearly explained their findings. Terry met with us a week prior to the fumigation to answer additional questions and explain the preparation required. He was present throughout the tenting process to assure it was done correctly. We highly recommend Termite Terry Pest Control."

Jan Brady
Orange

"I had my house tented for termites over the weekend. Skip and the office staff were very helpful and walked us through the process. Everything went well and I appreciate Skip's knowledge and expertise. I would definitely recommend Skip and Termite Terry to others."

Aaron Tse
Huntington Beach

2. Cockroaches

Cockroaches are known to spread at least 33 types of bacteria and 6 types of parasitic worms. They also carry 7 other kinds of human pathogens, including *Salmonella*, *Vibrio cholerae* and *Staphylococcus aureus*. Roaches can also pick up germs and debris on their legs while they crawl through sewage and debris, which can lead to contamination of food, food surfaces, and equipment.

The basic steps for controlling roaches are:

- **Prevention is key!** Roaches are often imported into your house from other locations. That is why bags, boxes, or packages should be carefully checked before you bring them indoors.
- **Roach proof your home** by sealing cracks and crevices in kitchens, bathrooms, exterior doors and windows.
- **Sanitation** is extremely important. Your goal is to deny roaches of food, water, and shelter.
 - Clean up food particles, spilled beverages, and don't leave dirty dishes in the sink.
 - Routinely clean under and around stoves, refrigerators, furniture, etc.
 - Don't leave food and water in pet bowls overnight.
 - Keep trash cans clean and empty them on a regular basis.
- **Treat with pesticides** if needed. At this time, desiccant dusts and roach baits are the most effective products for controlling roaches. Liquid and spray products can be used in some instances, but they are usually not as effective. Diatomaceous earth and are low-toxicity dusts that work very well. Most roach baits are low in toxicity, and if the correct type of bait is placed properly, it can yield excellent control.

3. Flies

The common house fly is known to carry over 100 types of germs that cause disease, such as *Salmonella* and *Listeria*. The house fly and its cousin,

the filth fly, breed in decaying trash or excrement. Once these flies enter your home or business, they will have ample opportunity to spread disease-causing bacteria and contaminate everything they touch.

You can help to control flies by:

- **Practicing good sanitation** and quickly clean up any spilled beverages or food. Place any waste in clean and sealed trash containers. Make a regular habit of taking your trash out. Refuse should be disposed of in sealed trash cans, located away from your house.
- **Check door and window screens** to make sure they are in good repair and tightly fitting.
- **Seal openings** around doors and windows to keep these pests out. Caulking or weather stripping works very well in most cases.

4. Stored Product Pests

This group of pests includes flour beetles, mites, moths, and weevils. Many of these pests are brought into homes and restaurants in items that were purchased from a store shelf.

Stored product pests can infest the equipment in food processing plants. Once the equipment is infested, the food will then become contaminated by all of the old body parts and cast skins that the pests leave behind. These pests may also be ground up into the food we eat. Some of the eggs from these pests can survive all of the processing, and that is why you may find them living in your flour, grains, cereals, spices, and other products.

Food infested with these pests is unsuitable for human consumption. If you see food beetles, moths or their larvae in your kitchen, here are some control measures you should take:

- **Prevention is key.** Always check food items for signs of food pests before you bring

them into your home. Carefully inspect birdseeds and pet foods. Store susceptible foods in tightly sealed containers.

- **Find the source!** You'll often find these pests living in items that have been stored in your pantry for an extended period of time. Place infested items in sealed plastic bags and dispose of them in your outside trash bin.
- **Inspect thoroughly.** After you have removed the infested food, carefully check all other items for any signs of activity. These pests often spread from one item to another and if you miss one single infested item, your problems will continue. If you have items that are questionable and you don't want to throw them out, you may want to place them in your freezer for four days at zero degrees.
- **Vacuum storage areas** and use hot soapy water to clean them.
- **Pesticides** are not usually needed. If a pesticide is necessary, follow the product label carefully, and avoid contact with any food.

Need help with any pest problems? **Call us at (949) 631-7348** and we'll be happy to schedule an appointment at your convenience!

This Isn't The First Tee-Pee Shortage!

On December 19, 1973, Johnny Carson gave his opening monologue on the Tonight Show. The late-night comedian said the following:

"You know, we've got all sorts of shortages these days. But have you heard the latest? I'm not kidding. I saw it in the papers. There's an acute shortage of . . . toilet paper!"

After his twenty-million viewers heard this and spread the word, actual fears soon materialized.

Americans rushed to stores and

filled their carts with tee-pee.

When Carson returned to the show after his Christmas vacation, he was forced to apologize for his joke. But the damage was done. There was never any shortage of tee-pee! Here we go again! ☺

President's Economic Stimulus

The corona virus has created a lot of health concerns and it is having an impact on our economy. President Termite Terry says this is no time for us to lose focus, and he is working harder than ever on improving our economy.

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

- Tracey and Rick Thopkins Santa Ana referred us to Patricia Whatley of Santa Ana.
- Paul and Vanessa Kalneta of Seal Beach recommended our service to Justin Perlman of Cypress.
- Marguerite Navarez of Orange referred us to her sister, Darlene Flores of Orange.
- Carrie Hoover of Newport Beach referred us to Jessica Yant of Costa Mesa.
- Bill Heath of San Clemente referred us to Alan Ralph of Costa Mesa.

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!

Story Of The Memorial Day Poppy

On the battlefields of Belgium, during World War I, poppies grew wild on the ravaged landscape. The "poppy movement" was inspired by the poem, "In Flanders Fields", written by a Canadian Army doctor named John McCrae. Some of the allied countries started selling replicas of the original Flanders poppy after the Armistice.

Moina Michael is credited as the founder of the Memorial Poppy in the United States. In November 1918, she was working at the YMCA Overseas War Secretaries Headquarters and was inspired by an article she read in a copy of Ladies Home Journal. The article carried a vivid color illustration for the poem, "We Shall Not Sleep" (later named, "In Flanders Fields").

Moina was moved by the last verse where it said, *"To you from failing hands we throw the Torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break the faith with us who die, we shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders Fields."* She made a personal pledge to always wear a red poppy of Flanders Fields as a sign of remembrance. She went on to work with the American Legion and in 1921, the Auxiliary set up the Memorial Day Poppy program.

Every year around Memorial Day, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion Auxiliary distribute millions of bright red poppies in exchange for donations.

This program offers a number of benefits to veterans and the community. It gives hospitalized veterans, who make the flowers, a way to earn a small wage. Also, the making of flowers can be therapeutic because of the physical and mental activity involved. All of the donations go directly to assist and support veterans and their families.

If you would you like to get one of these poppies, please check with your local American Legion or VFW post. This is a great cause and donations are gladly accepted.

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Asian Giant Hornets Have Invaded The U.S.

A small number of Asian giant hornets have been spotted in the Pacific Northwest, and scientist are now on a full-scale hunt to track them down. Officials fear that if these hornets become established in the U.S., they will have negative impacts on the environment, economy, and public health.

Asian giant hornets are the world's largest species of hornet and they are about the size of a matchbox (2 inches long). This is also one of the most venomous insects in the world and with its ¼ inch long stinger, it can sting a victim repeatedly. These hornets are murderers. In Japan, they report about 40-50 deaths per year. Many more deaths are reported in other Asian countries.

These animals are intensely predatory and will chew up large insects with their powerful teeth. While they will eat a variety of large insects, they have a preference for honeybees. This can be a major problem because it only takes twenty of these hornets between one and six hours to completely destroy a single bee colony. One such case may have recently occurred in Washington state, where all that was left of the hive were thousands of heads from decapitated bees.

Asian giant hornets live in much of Asia. No one is sure how they arrived in the Pacific Northwest. Some believe they may have come in with shipments of cargo from Asia. Others believe that they may have been brought in on purpose to provide the ingredients for "hornet juice". Yes, some athletes believe that hornet juice is a performance enhancing supplement, and there are Olympic record holders who swear by it.

If you really are serious about your athletic performance, may I suggest you go online and place an order. Please, let someone overseas make this product and provide it for you. By doing so, you could possibly save a lot of lives and help to protect our bees.



"Termite" Terry Singleton