

### TERMITES

Termites can be found in every state within the United States except for Alaska.

Termites ingest wood. Microorganisms within the gut of the termite digest the cellulose and other wood components in which the termites gain sustenance.

A termite is unable to distinguish between a rotting log and the wood frame of a house.

Termites can live up to fifteen years.

Termites have two pairs of nearly equal length wings.

Termites have a thick waist.

The antennae of a termite are straight.

Swarming termites are a sign that female and male reproductive termites are exiting the colony and in search of a new location in which to start a new colony.

Most native subterranean termite swarming occurs during warm and sunny days, often after an afternoon rain shower.

Termites ingest wood from within and work their way out. This often makes detecting termite damage difficult.

### ANTS

Of the approximately 700 ant species found within the United States, about 25 species are considered pests within the home.

Ants have superseded roaches as the most difficult of structural pests to control.

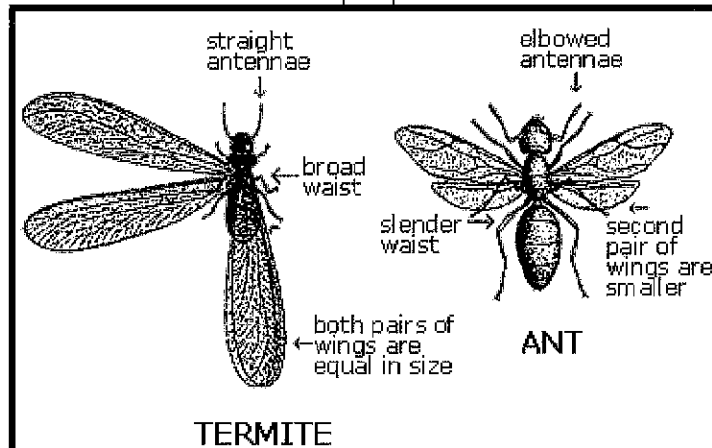
Adult ants do not eat solid food but rather ingest only liquids, which may be stored in their crop.

Ants and termites do not tend to swarm at the same time.

Ants have one pair of long wings and one pair of short wings.

Ants have a thin waist.

The antennae of an ant are elbowed.



Ants can often be found within the walls of a home as a secondary invader behind a termite colony.

Ants tend to use the electrical wiring within the walls of a home to move about and forage for food.

Baiting is often the best means of controlling fire ants.

Ant colonies are always looking for moisture, protective cover and a nearby food source.



850-474-4000

# PEST BUZZ

## Everyone Hates Roaches



866-PEST-COM

866-737-8266

### ROACH FACTS

There are over 5,000 species of cockroaches throughout the world.

Roaches can live for over thirty days without food and up to a week without water.

A cockroach can be submerged in water for up to thirty minutes and not drown.

Cockroaches don't survive well in sustained temperatures below 32 degrees.

Cockroaches that have just shed their skin are white.

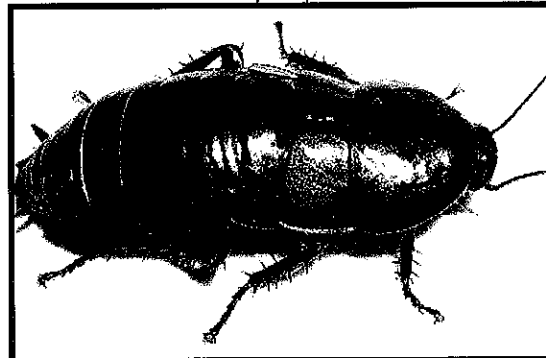
The reflexes of a roach are faster than that of a human.

The exoskeleton of a roach has been shown to promote allergic reactions in some people.

Immature cockroaches can squeeze into a space the thickness of a dime. A male adult roach requires a space equal to the thickness of a quarter. Pregnant roaches need to find a hiding place at least two nickels high.

Roaches can survive without a head for up to a week. Eventually, unable to drink water, they die of thirst.

Everyone knows cockroaches have six legs. If you do the math, they have at least eighteen knees.



### ROACH CONTROL

**Prevention**— Remove or reduce the causes of roach infestation. Close-off entry points into the household or building such as under door sweeps and window voids.

**Sanitation**— Storage rooms and pantries often provide a safe haven for roaches. Eliminating food sources is difficult as cockroaches will consume almost anything of nutritive value.

**Inspection**— The use of a flashlight and good flushing agent will allow for proper location and species identification of the roach population. More than one variety of cockroach may be present. It is essential to properly identify the species before a treatment is carried out as control measures for each variety can vary.

**Initial Treatment**— Cockroach resistance to various products requires knowledge and a thorough understanding of what is available for roach control. Growth regulators (IGR's), residual baits, microencapsulated pesticides, liquid and aerosol treatments should all be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

**Follow-up Maintenance**— Regular inspections, flushing agents, and the use of monitoring stations will allow for early detection of a reoccurring infestation or newly introduced invaders.

**Call Environmental Security For All Your Termite And Pest Control Needs**

picture provided by allpetroaches.com

### FLEAS

Of the over 2,000 flea species throughout the world, the cat flea is the main infester of dogs and cats in the U.S.

The adult female flea is the biter. In any given feeding she can consume nearly 15 times her weight in blood.

A flea must have a blood meal before she is able before she is able to lay eggs.

Fleas can lay over 2,000 eggs in their lifetime.

Adult fleas can live over 100 days without feeding.

### WHAT ABOUT MY PETS?

A flea bite can leave an itchy painful sore that animals will often irritate by scratching.

Flea Allergy Dermatitis can arise if your pet develops an allergy to flea saliva. Redness and scabbing at the bite can lead to secondary infection and patchy hair loss.

When a pet is grooming itself, it is possible to contract tapeworms by ingesting a flea that is carrying the tapeworm larvae. Once in the gastrointestinal tract, the larvae develop and mature. The parasitic sections resemble small grains of rice.

### CONTROL

Breaking the life-cycle of the flea is necessary to control an ongoing flea infestation. This is a multi-step process.

Identification– Proper ID is always required. There are target products designed for flea control. Fleas are sometimes confused with lice, ticks, and bed bugs.

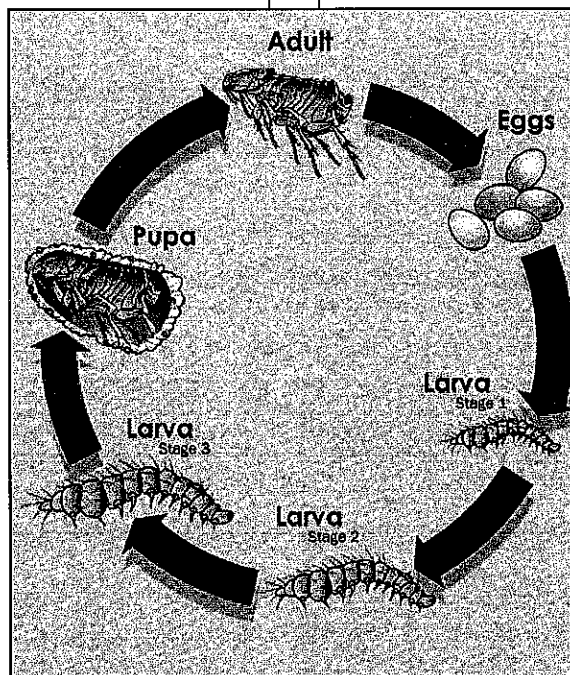
Prevention– Remove the pet from areas where they are encountering fleas. Block-off any areas where stray or wild animals may seek refuge such as in a crawlspace under the house or garage.

Reduction– Have the pet treated. Preferably by your veterinarian to insure the use of a quality product.

Indoor Control – Vacuum all areas where the pet usually frequents such as carpeted areas, on and underneath fabric furniture and around the bedding. Apply a quality

flea control product to the areas of concern.

Outdoor Control– Keep the landscaping well groomed to reduce flea harborage. Apply a pest control product around the perimeter of the home to ensure lasting flea control. It is highly recommended that neighbors with pets have those animals on a flea treatment as well.



# PEST BUZZ

Bed bugs are the worst!

## BED BUG FACTS

Bed Bugs are small, oval insects that feed by sucking blood from humans or animals.

The bite is not harmful nor does the pest transmit diseases, however, the bite can product a skin rash or allergic symptoms.

Bed bugs prefer darkness but are not exclusively nocturnal. The bite is usually painless and generally not noticed as bed bugs prefer to feed at night. Because of this, bed bugs prefer to live in mattresses.

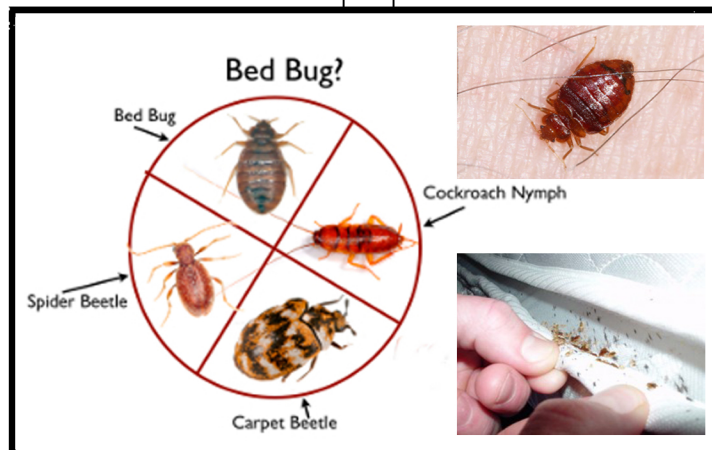
Bed bugs are not just associated with beds. While mattresses are the preferred hiding spot for bedbugs, they can hide and live in couches, chairs, rugs, luggage, purses, clothing, inside books and even picture frames!

Bed bugs are expensive to treat and treatment requires throwing away many of your possessions.

Adult bed bugs are light brown to reddish-brown. They are flattened and oval-shaped with no back wings.

Bed bugs have a segmented abdomen with small hairs. Bed bugs omit an odor when crushed.

Now that you know what to look for, check your home for bed bugs. Bed bugs prefer to live in cracks and crevices. Pull off the sheets and check on the undersides of your mattresses as well as in all four corners. Look for any live bugs, bloodstains, and fecal matter or other residue in your furniture.



## BED BUG CONTROL

1) Don't buy used furniture! You must be careful when purchasing used furniture as a few bugs can lead to an infestation. Fully inspect all crevices of any furniture before purchasing anything used.

Bedbugs are hard to kill and expensive to treat. We've seen bedbug treatments cost anywhere from \$500-\$2,000. Plus, treatment will include throwing away any and all affected items. Why take the risk?

2) Be cautious while traveling. Hotels are prime bed bug

breeding grounds. Check prior to departure to see if your hotel appears on any of these bedbug registry websites: <http://www.bedbugreports.com/> and <http://registry.bedbugs.net/>

3) Use mattress covers for all beds in the household. Experts suggest purchasing a white or light colored mattress protector.

4) Routinely check your bedroom for bedbugs. Be sure to check your entire bedroom and any furniture surrounding the bed!

5) Act fast if you suspect a bedbug situation. Be aware, do your research, and stay vigilant especially when traveling or visiting others homes.

It's best to isolate any items that may have been exposed. Wash all clothing dry on high heat. Put shoes, stuffed animals, and purses in dryer on high heat. Throw away items that cannot be dried that may be affected such as luggage. Consult a professional.

If you suspect you have encountered bedbugs, notify the appropriate parties and consult a professional.