

Services Guide

Pest Control Services

**NOTE 1: This information is pulled from credible sources. This information is a guide. Any information used from this guide must be re-contextualized (no copying and pasting). Re-contextualize information incorporating SEO and business specifics.*

**NOTE 2: For MCP websites, stick to general information and avoid specifics.*

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1. PEST CONTROL SERVICES OVERVIEW

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

<http://npic.orst.edu/pest/>

- Pests are unwanted plants, animals, insects, germs or other organisms that interfere with human activity.
- They may bite, destroy food crops, damage property, or otherwise make our lives more difficult. Effective pest control requires some knowledge about the pest and its habits.
- The first step is to identify the pest correctly; the second step is to learn about its lifestyle. After that, you can evaluate strategies to control your pest.
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a pest control approach that uses the least toxic methods first. IPM includes common sense methods based on scientific knowledge of the pest and its habits.
 - Methods often include removing pests' food source, blocking their entry into an area or building, using beneficial organisms, and the judicious use of pesticides.
 - IPM can be more effective than conventional methods, which may use chemicals alone.
 - In IPM, pesticides may be used as a last resort, when non-chemical controls have failed and the pest problem is serious enough to require chemical control.

1.2 SEO

Keywords (First Row – BEST, Last Row – LEAST)

○ Bed bugs	○ Cockroach	○ Ant	○ Pest
○ How to kill ants	○ Bed bug spray	○ Exterminate	○ Pest control
○ How to get rid of rats	○ Exterminator	○ Rat poison	○ How to get rid of mice
○ Bed bug treatment	○ Raccoon removal	○ Termites	○ Fumigation

1.3 TYPES OF PEST CONTROL

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pest_control#Types_of_pest_control

<http://www.pestcontrolmethods.org/>

Types of Pest Control:

Type	Description
Use of Pest Destroying Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Known as a 'natural' pest control method○ Natural pest control methods are employed to effectively reduce or eliminate infestation without harming humans, crops and other organisms.○ This method often utilizes other organisms such as plants or insects to control pests in an agricultural environment.○ Such methods include companion planting or planting other crops to draw the insects away from the main crops, or cultivating insects or small animals which feed on the pests.○ It has little or no harmful effect on humans and agriculture, which makes it useful where other animals such as pets and livestock are present in the surroundings.○ Not using harmful chemicals that can be bad for you
Mechanical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mechanical pest control is the use of hands-on techniques as well as simple equipment and devices that provides a protective barrier between plants and insects.
Physical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Physical pest control is a method of getting rid of insects and small rodents by removing, attacking, setting up barriers that will prevent further destruction of one's plants, or forcing insect infestations to become visual.
Elimination of Breeding Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Proper waste management and drainage of still water, eliminates the breeding ground of many pests.○ Garbage provides food and shelter for many unwanted organisms, as well as an area where still water might collect and be used as a breeding ground by mosquitoes. Communities that have proper garbage collection and disposal, have far less of a problem with rats, cockroaches, mosquitoes, flies and other pests than those that don't.○ Open air sewers are ample breeding ground for various pests as well. By building and maintaining a proper sewer system, this problem is eliminated.

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Poisoned Bait	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Poisoned bait is a common method for controlling rat populations, however is not as effective when there are other food sources around, such as garbage.○ Poisoned meats have been used for centuries for killing off wolves, birds that were seen to threaten crops, and against other creatures.○ This can be a problem, since a carcass which has been poisoned will kill not only the targeted animal, but also every other animal which feeds on the carcass.○ Humans have also been killed by coming in contact with poisoned meat, or by eating an animal which had fed on a poisoned carcass.○ This tool is also used to manage several caterpillars e.g. Spodoptera litura, fruit flies, snails and slugs, crabs etc.
Destruction of Infected Plants & Field Burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Traditionally, after a sugar cane harvest, the fields are all burned, to kill off any rodents, insects or eggs that might be in the fields○ Forest services sometimes destroy all the trees in an area where some are infected with insects, if seen as necessary to prevent the insect species from spreading. Farms infested with certain insects, have been burned entirely, to prevent the pest from spreading elsewhere.
Traps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A variety of mouse traps and rat traps are available for mice and rats, including snap traps, glue traps and live catch traps.
Pesticides/Chemical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Spraying pesticides by planes, trucks or by hand is a common method of pest control.○ Crop dusters commonly fly over farmland and spray pesticides to kill off pests that would threaten the crops.○ However, some pesticides may cause cancer and other health problems, as well as harming wildlife○ Via <u>space fumigation</u>:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● A project that involves a structure be covered or sealed airtight followed by the introduction of a penetrating, deadly gas at a killing concentration a long period of time (24-72hrs.).● Although expensive, space fumigation targets all life stages of pests○ Via <u>space treatment</u>:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● the dispersal of insecticides into the air by foggers, misters, aerosol devices or vapor dispensers for control of flying insects and exposed crawling insects● A long term project involving fogging or misting type applicators. Liquid insecticide is dispersed in the atmosphere within a

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	<p>structure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treatments do not require the evacuation or airtight sealing of a building, allowing most work within the building to continue but at the cost of the penetrating effects.• Contact insecticides are generally used, minimizing the long lasting residual effects
Geese Hazing (specific to Canada Geese)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Canada goose populations in some areas have grown substantially, and now many consider them pests for their voluminous droppings, fecal bacteria, loud noise, and confrontational behavior.○ Geese Hazing is the practice of regularly using trained dogs, or other deterrents such as lasers or fireworks to relocate Canadian geese. After a period of regular interruption, noise and annoyance and perceived threats, the geese will finally choose to relocate.○ Trained dogs are the most typical and effective method of geese hazing. They pose a real perceived threat to geese, but are trained to not actually hurt the geese. If geese flee to the water for safety, the dog(s) will actually swim out to continue to disrupt them.

2. COMMON PESTS AND CONTROLLING THEM

2.1 BIRDS

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/bird-control-vancouver-bc/>

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/birds>

General:

- There are a variety of low profile bird control solutions including bird wire and electric track in addition to traditional methods such as bird spike and bird netting.
- When evaluating a health risk potential look for the following: droppings or nesting materials inside air vents, birds around food or beverage production facilities, or large amounts of droppings in enclosed areas. These are the types of situations where disease can be spread.
- Old prevention methods such as trapping and shooting though legal, are not a long term solution to nuisance pigeons. Pigeon control is best accomplished by permanently excluding them from their roosting or nesting area.
- Bird spikes and bird netting can be installed on houses and commercial buildings

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Common Bird ‘Pests’:

- Seagulls
- Pigeons
- Canadian Geese
- Sparrows

2.2 RATS

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/rat>

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/rodent-control-vancouver-bc/>

General:

- Rats attack the food of man in the farm fields, orchards, and livestock facilities, during its processing, storage and transport, and while it is in our supermarkets, restaurants and homes. What rats do not eat, they spoil by contaminating it with their urine, feces or fur.
- Removal of food sources for rats is an important element of their control. As well, elimination to potential rat entry points and removal of rubbish and other potential nesting areas are essential.
- Norway rats like to burrow and therefore build their nests in wall voids, underneath sidewalks or decking, and may dig up and also nest in vegetation. They can also turn up commonly in attics and crawlspaces.
- Pest Control experts will inspect every inch of your home or business including the roof, attic and crawlspace.

Preparation Steps for Rat Treatment:

Steps

1. Eliminate any food source and plug any holes or openings where rats may gain entry to the home.

2. If the rats are in the cupboards or closets, these areas should be cleared out so that control measures can be installed.

3. Have children and pets out of the way when the service is being done.

4. Pest control experts may use glue boards, snap-traps, and live traps. These items are placed in areas that are as "out of the view" of residents as possible. If these devices are found, please do not move or touch them.

5. If rodenticide bait is used, It is placed In locked stations that are secured to the floor surface in

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areas that are accessible to children. Please do not move or touch these stations.

6. A pest control representative will return after the extermination has been completed to remove all baits and traps. This should be arranged prior to service.

2.3 MICE

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/rodent-control-vancouver-bc/>

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/house-mouse>

General:

- The most common breed of mouse in North America is the house mouse. They vary in colour from white to grey, and light brown to black.
- Mice will eat almost anything but they prefer cereals and insects. Keeping a spotless kitchen is an essential part of getting any mouse infestation under control.
- Mice are arguably the most difficult pest to eradicate. Several (4-6) service visits is common for mice and rodent control.
- Since the contributing factor to a mouse infestation is the presence of food, good housekeeping is essential. This includes the proper storage of foods in sealed jars or tins. In addition all refuse should be stored in containers with tight fitting lids. Seal all openings to the outside. Especially around doors and windows.

Preparation Steps for Mouse Treatment:

Steps

1. Eliminate any food source and plug any holes or openings where mice may gain entry to the home.

2. If the mice are in the cupboards or closets, these areas should be cleared out so that control measures can be installed.

3. Have children and pets out of the way when the service is being done.

4. Pest control experts may use glue boards, snap-traps, and live traps. These items are placed in areas that are as "out of the view" of residents as possible. If these devices are found, please do not move or touch them.

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5. If rodenticide bait is used, it is placed in locked stations that are secured to the floor surface (with two sided tape), in areas that are as inaccessible to children as possible. Please do not move or touch these stations.

6. A pest control representative will return after the extermination has been completed to remove all baits and traps. This should be arranged prior to service.

2.4 SQUIRRELS

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/squirrel-removal-in-vancouver-bc/>

General:

- Squirrels prefer tree hollows or better yet, the attic in your home
- Trained technicians will inspect the attic and every exterior inch of your home or business. Part of our process always involves entry point exclusion to ensure that all potential access points have been sealed so that the squirrels and other rodents are unable to re-enter the home.
- If we are unable to determine if the squirrel is out of the structure, we will install a one-way door (kind of like a cat door) which allows the squirrel(s) to leave but not re-enter. The door is removed and the access point sealed during our follow-up visit

2.5 SKUNKS

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/skunk>

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/skunk-removal-vancouver-bc/>

General:

- It's no secret when there is a skunk living nearby. Skunks prefer not to climb and usually reside near or below ground level. Skunks commonly reside below hollow concrete steps, backyard sheds and old garages.

Get Rid of Skunk Odour:

- Mix equal parts hydrogen peroxide (h. peroxide can be substituted with vinegar) and baking soda and add a glob of dish soap.
- Apply generously and massage into fur of pet.
- Rinse and re-apply as required.
- Same formula for people. Don't waste your time and money with tomato juice!

2.6 RACCOONS

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/racoon-removal-vancouver-bc/>

General:

- Raccoons are becoming a very common urban pest in Vancouver and will go to great lengths to find themselves a place to live. They are extremely adaptable.
- Raccoons have successfully made homes in urban areas, and have become household pests.
- Raccoons usually have multiple den locations, even as many as 20! And all within a few few square blocks. You and your neighbor probably share the same raccoon.
- Raccoons will damage almost anything to gain access to a potential den or food source. They will tear apart roofs, soffits chimney cover, fascia board, soffit or shed to gain access to a potential den or food source.
- They will often damage lawns and gardens in search of grubs and earthworms.
- Many people are familiar with the chaffer beetle – a favorite raccoon snack. The chaffer beetle commonly buries it's larvae in the soil of front and backyard lawns. A lawn containing chaffer beetle larvae can be completely torn to pieces by a raccoon in a night!

2.7 BATS

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/bat-eviction/>

General:

- Bats can only be evicted in the appropriate season in a safe and sensitive manner.
- Night roosts are places that bats use temporarily during the night to rest between feeding bouts and include covered patios, doorways, and carports. Bats are rarely seen but droppings are observed in the morning.
- There's no reason to evict them if there is little chance for contact with people.
- Prevent guano and bats entering inside the human living quarters by sealing spaces in floor joists and other entry points between roost and human living spaces.
- Look for telltale signs of bat entry. These could include brown stains on walls where they squeeze in or accumulated guano below the entry point.
- Providing alternate roosting habitat increases the chances of successful and safe eviction of bats.
- Install bat houses as high as possible (at least 3 1/2m (12' high), on south facing exposures to receive at least 6 to 10 hours of sun. Bat houses should be installed in an uncluttered location without branches, buildings, or poles in front or below it.

2.8 GOPHERS

<https://www.peregrinepestcontrol.ca/pocket-gophers-calgary>

Pocket Gophers:

<https://www.peregrinepestcontrol.ca/pocket-gophers-calgary>

- If you notice crescent shaped mounds of soil all over your garden you know you have a pocket gopher problem. Pocket gophers (commonly called moles) cause havoc in pastures and farmland.
- Pocket gophers will burrow beneath your garden crops, ornamental plants and other herbaceous shrubs, trees and vines, feeding on the roots and the plant's below-ground fleshy parts as they dig.
- A single pocket gopher can destroy your garden in a very short time so it is good to take action as soon as you notice its presence.
- If you have pocket gophers it would be best to call us right away as females can produce up to three litters of 5-6 young per year.
- In residential settings we usually find just one pocket gopher per group of mounds. On acreages anything from four to seven gophers are common.
- Our service consists of first locating the main burrow before trapping and eliminating the pocket gopher.

Richardson Ground Squirrels:

[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3471](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3471)

- They dig holes and burrows frustrating farmers, acreage owners, and home owners. Gophers destroy turf and lawn areas.
- Burrows are dangerous for livestock and unsuspecting people. Gophers are cute to look at, but can cause a large economic damage.
- The burrows of Richardson's ground squirrels are grouped closely together in colonies, and individuals give audible alarm calls when possible predators approach.
- The most common control response to ground squirrel damage is to set out poisoned food-based baits. This approach has long been the recommended standard control since poisons are convenient to use and reasonably cheap, while the results are obvious and reasonably rapid.
- There are several ways to estimate ground squirrel numbers. A popular monitoring technique is the combination of electronically recorded stress calls and visual counts where ground squirrels respond physically, vocally or both.

2.9 CANADA GEESE

<http://www.hawkeye.ca/toronto-bird-control-pest-birds/pest-bird-geese>

General:

- By definition, Canada geese are not classified as pest birds and are afforded protection by Government agencies. Nonetheless, Canada Geese are increasingly becoming the scourge of suburbia as their numbers have grown in the past decade from only a few thousand to hundreds of thousands.
- In fact, the familiar V shaped squadron of honking geese heading south is becoming a rare sight. Country Clubs and business parks offer pristinely manicured lawns and ponds providing an ideal habitat and effectively modify their migration cycle.
- Geese are very opportunistic and easily exploit the new 'easy living' conditions found in an urban environment.
- Geese can cause damage to agricultural crops year round, either by trampling or consumption. Aesthetic damage to suburban lawns, golf courses, etc., is incalculable. Geese are also a health hazard - fouling reservoirs and ponds.
- A larger threat is air safety. Geese are one of the main birds involved in airline bird strikes worldwide.
- Geese are generally very difficult to remove. Before established, immediate corrective landscaping and behavioral modification is imperative: Remove cover shrubbery, eliminate aquatic vegetation and reduce fertilizer, especially around pond area, to make grass less nutritionally attractive.
- Control can include: dogs, pond wiring, birds of prey falconry, pyrotechnics, nest removal and bird relocation.

See Geese Hazing information in section 1.3.

2.10 WASPS

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/wasp-control-vancouver-bc/>
<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/wasp>

General:

- Varieties common in North America are the yellow jacket, hornet and paper wasp. All wasps have chewing mouth parts and females possess a stinger.
- For the most part, people don't pay much attention to wasps and hornets except when they start to invade the picnic or barbecue.
- But what do you do when the problem is big next of wasps or hornets tucked up under the eaves of your home, or hidden near the back door of your business. It's a cinch you don't want

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- to be tangling with a large nest of angry hornets and wasps because that's just asking for trouble
- Whenever possible try to eliminate fallen fruit and refuse which will attract wasps. Sealing holes and other potential sites may help prevent nesting. Once a nest is established do not seal the hole until after treating and there is no more activity.

Possible Wasp Control Treatment:

- Injecting a pesticide directly in the nest to kill all stages of the insect present in the nest. If possible, the nest will be removed.
- Wasps that are out of the nest at the time of the treatment may return to the area and be controlled upon re-entering the nest. Where the nest has been removed these insects will typically disperse from the area.
- Generally, there is no need to vacate the premises; however, it is advisable to avoid the immediate vicinity of the nest for at least 24 hours.

2.11 HORNETS

General:

- While hornets are commonly thought to be different from wasps, in fact they're just a larger-sized sub-set of the wasp family.
- Hornets and yellowjackets can grow their nests to as many as four or five thousand individuals.
- Hornet control, yellowjacket control and paper wasp control is best started as soon as a nest is detected. If you're allergic to stinging insects, or aren't confident in your ability to escape the attack of an agitated wasp, don't try this method.
- Remember, a hornet/wasp stinger isn't like a bee's stinger; it can do damage more than once, and hornet/wasp poison can cause reactions in humans and pets ranging from acute irritation all the way up to hospitalization and death.
- Therefore, the much safer route to go when it comes to wasp or hornet control is to call in the professionals

2.12 FLIES

<http://www.orkin.com/flies/>
<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/fruit-fly>

General:

- When flies feed on waste, they collect pathogens on their legs and mouths. These pathogens are then transferred to food on tables or counters when a fly lands again. Flies regurgitate on solid food then they eat the liquid. They are capable of transmitting disease when they vomit, groom themselves or just walk on surfaces.

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- The best way to repel flies is through simple, preventive measures. Flies prefer warm temperatures and are most active from late spring to early autumn.
- In order to best repel flies during this time, limit access to your home as much as possible, keeping doors and windows closed. You may also choose to screen windows, doors and vents.
- Keep garbage cans clean and securely closed. Keeping surfaces clean will make your home less appealing to flies.
- For best results, contact a pest control professional to discuss extermination options.

Fruit Flies:

- Fruit flies are commonly encountered in association with fermenting waste material, especially fruit and vegetable matter. They are also common in areas where soft drinks, alcohol, beer, ice cream and fermenting flour are found. Garbage and recycling bins are ideal locations to breed. Newly developed adults are attracted to light.
- Fruit fly problems can only be solved through investigating breeding sites and corrective sanitary measures. Installation of traps containing fly attractant will reduce adult populations.
- Preparation Steps for fruit fly treatment:
 - Since fruit flies develop in wet decaying debris, all areas where this type of material is found should be eliminated i.e. garbage pails should be emptied often.
 - Treatment performed by Pest Control will vary depending on the type of fly. An inspection and report detailing breeding sites will be performed. Recommended sanitation must be performed prior to any treatment. Fly traps may be used, in this case any trap should be left where the technician places them
 - Perform Bio-remediation treatment to reduce organic build up in drains and under equipment.

2.13 ANTS

<http://westsidepestcontrol.com/service/other-insect-control-vancouver/>

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/pharaoh-ants>

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/carpenter-ant>

Pavement Ants:

- Pavement ants usually make their homes under sidewalks and driveways, building slabs and large rocks. In early spring, colonies attempt to conquer new areas and often attack nearby enemy colonies.
- During the summer time the pavement ants dig out the sand in between the pavements to vent the nests and to make room to lay eggs.

Carpenter Ants:

- The most common color is black, but some species are red and black, solid red, or brown.
- Outdoors, carpenter ants nest in any wood that is in close contact to a moisture source, for example, stumps, landscape ties and wooden fence posts.



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- In buildings, they often make their nests in hollow doors, in wood cabinets near dishwashers, in damp locations behind baseboards, fireplaces, window frames, and in basements and attics.
- The elimination of moist conditions by providing good ventilation and isolating wood from any direct contact with the soil will aid in carpenter ant prevention.
- Foods should be kept in sealed containers and areas where food is stored kept free of spillage or crumbs.
- Eliminate old lumber, logs and stumps from around your property and do not store firewood inside the building. In the case of new construction, only properly treated lumber should be used.

Pharaoh Ants:

- Pharaoh ants live in minute multi-colonies and are very difficult to eradicate. More than a dozen pathogenic bacteria have been found on pharaoh ants and they can spread these into your food.
- Pharaoh ants are 1.5 mm in length and are yellow or light brown to red in colour. Their small size makes them difficult to see with visual inspection. Nests are usually located near warm moist areas, in inaccessible areas such as behind baseboards, in furniture, under floors, and between linens.
- The detection and elimination of pharaoh ants is a difficult and lengthy process. Liquids, aerosol and dusts are NOT to be used by the homeowner after pest control services as this will cause the colony to bud (scatter), making the infestation more difficult to control.

2.14 TERMITES

<http://www.orkin.com/termitecontrol/#identify>

General:

- Because Termites mostly live underground and in the walls of your home, you are unlikely to see the termites themselves.
- Since you likely won't see termites, look for these signs:
 - Termite droppings, which look like small, ridged, wood-colored pellets.
 - Mud tubes on exterior surface (pictured to the left).
 - Wings all of the same size (look like tiny fish scales) shredded near an entry point to your home.
- Most homeowners list their first home as their single largest investment. With termite damage totalling upwards of \$5 billion per year, they are a major threat to that investment. Furthermore, most insurance plans don't cover treatment or repairs due to termites.
- Tips for preventing termite infestation:
 - Eradicate the collection of moisture by fixing pipes, A/C units, and other home fixtures prone to leaking.
 - Ensure drainage sites remain clean and effective.
 - Caulk cracks in the foundation and around utility lines or pipes.



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- Keep plants and mulch well maintained.
- Store firewood and lumber away from the home.
- Get rid of excess wood like tree stumps or yard debris.
- Install appropriately sized screens on exterior vents.
- Monitor outdoor wooden structures for signs of infestation.

Types of Treatments:

- Liquid Termite Treatments
 - Liquid treatments help deter termites immediately. They also offer protection from future infestations.
 - Liquid treatments may be applied on the inside, outside and within the home's foundation, providing a protective area around the home.
 - Liquid wood treatments may be injected directly into active termite infestations.
- Bait & Monitoring Plus Direct Liquid
 - Monitoring stations are placed in strategic at-risk locations around your home to determine termite activity.
 - Once termite activity is detected, the monitoring station is replaced with the bait device. Termites then ingest the bait and share it with other termites, helping to establish colony control.

2.15 TICKS

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/tick>

General:

- Ticks are one of the most well-known pests related to illness - Lyme disease. Tiny, small, black and blood-sucking pests, these ticks can really take a toll on one's health.
- When the weather starts to get warm again in the springtime and people begin to spend more time outside, they're more likely at risk
- They can be found in areas where woods/fields meet lawn. Around tall brush/grass, climbing stone walls and woodpiles where mice and other small mammals live, under plants/leaves to prevent dehydration and of course, in our pets.
- When going for a walk or in contact with livestock try to wear light colored clothes as these make them easy to spot. Tuck your pants inside your socks or wear some tall boots.
- Infested houses and/or kennels should be cleaned thoroughly to eliminate as many ticks as possible. Vacuuming is very effective indoors.
- Pet beddings and resting areas should be given special attention. Infested pets should be treated by a veterinarian, groomer or the owner to eradicate them from your home as soon as possible.

2.16 COCKROACHES

<http://www.orkin.com/cockroaches/american-cockroach/>

General:

- American cockroaches normally live outdoors. They prefer warm, damp areas like flowerbeds, and under mulch. In many parts of the United States people call them “palmetto bugs” because they live on trees. American cockroaches are very common in sewer systems of many American cities.
- American cockroaches enter homes to find water or food. They can easily pass under doors if the weather stripping is damaged. Basement windows and garages are also common entryways.
- When American cockroaches enter homes, they often go to bathrooms, kitchens, laundry rooms and basements.
- Outdoors, American cockroaches eat leaves, tiny wood particles, fungi and algae. They also eat small insects.
- Indoors, American cockroaches forage under appliances, in drains, in kitchen cabinets and on the floor. They eat crumbs, scraps of food and spilled food that they find. They will also eat pet food that is left out overnight.
- To effectively manage a serious cockroach infestation, you must correctly identify the type of cockroach causing the infestation, which is why it is important to contact a pest control professional.
- Treatment methods:
 - Exclusion—Nonchemical methods such as caulking or door sweeps help keep American cockroaches from entering your home.
 - Landscape modification—If American roaches are living around your home, it may be necessary to remove dead leaves or rake mulch away from the foundation. The technician will point out these opportunities.
 - Gel or granular bait—These are applied in areas where American cockroaches will eat them but children or pets cannot reach them.
 - Insect growth regulator—Applied into cockroach hiding places, these interfere with the cockroaches' normal development.
 - Residual insecticides—Applied into cracks and crevices, these help keep American cockroaches from hiding in the treated areas. The technician may also apply liquid insecticide outdoors to help keep American cockroaches from coming inside.

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2.17 BED BUGS

<http://www.orkin.com/other/bed-bugs/>
<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/bed-bugs>

General:

- Bed bugs only feed on blood. Under cool conditions, bed bugs have been able to survive up to a year without a meal. They prefer to be more active at night when the host is asleep.
- Bed bugs are found in cracks and crevices, including mattress seams, sheets, furniture, behind baseboards, electrical outlet plates and picture frames. Often found in hotels, where they can travel from room to room and in visitors' luggage or other personal belongings such as purses and briefcases.
- A visual inspection of the bed mattress, headboard and linens need to be performed inspecting typical focal areas of infestation. Immediate action should be taken when bloodspots or actual bedbugs are present.
- A systematic approach must be taken to verify all existing and potential bedbug harbourage sites are identified and that their treatment is thorough enough to achieve control.

2.18 SPIDERS

<http://www.orkin.com/other/spiders/>
<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/spider>

General:

- Some spiders like moisture and are found in basements, crawl spaces and other damp parts of buildings. Others like dry, warm areas such as subfloor air vents, upper corners of rooms and attics. They hide in dark areas.
- They feed on insects, other spiders and any other prey they are able to subdue.
- Since spiders feed on other insects, removing the food source is necessary. Sweeping the basement and crawlspace inside the home will deter infestation.
- Pest control technicians can treat around the perimeter outside and to dark moist areas such as under porches, and removing all debris from this area prior to treatment also increases the effectiveness.

2.19 CARPET BEETLES

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/carpet-beetle>

General:

- The carpet beetle is a very common insect in homes and has world-wide distribution. The larvae of carpet beetles may cause serious damage to materials of animal origin such as wool, fur, hair and feathers. Carpet beetles also feed on dead insects and are often found in homes

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that have had cluster fly infestations. Carpet beetles will live outside and have been found feeding on plant pollen.

- Carpet beetles can cause damage. Products such as fabrics exhibit various holes from the adult and irregular holes in material from the larvae. Furs and brushes may have tips of hairs damaged, leaving uneven areas.
- Regular inspection of the home should take place. As well, good housekeeping practices will limit likelihood of infestation. Pest Control can use special products that have been developed for the control of carpet beetles. Depending on the severity of infestation, a single control measure may not be effective and an integrated program will be required.

2.20 WOODBUGS/SOWBUGS/PILLBUGS

<http://www.orkin.com/other/sowbugs/>

General:

- Despite their name, sowbugs, sometimes called a woodlouse, are not really bugs. They are land-living crustaceans.
- Sowbugs are not able to retain water in their bodies, so they spend most of their time in damp places. Outdoors they hide under logs, rocks, flowerpots and trash cans.
- Sowbugs eat organic debris and decaying plants, so it is common to find them under mulch in flowerbeds. To conserve moisture, they are usually active at night.
- Sowbugs usually come into homes through ground-level doors and windows. Sliding glass doors seem to be a favorite entrance for them.
- Homeowners often find sowbugs in basements and other places that have a damp, humid environment. Sowbugs wander to all parts of the home. They also invade garages and storage buildings. Since many areas in a home are too dry for sowbugs, they usually die after they come indoors.
- The best way to prevent sowbugs is eliminating their hiding places.
- When sowbugs invade the interior of a home, you should contact your pest management professional who can provide an inspection and create a sowbug treatment plan.

2.21 CLOTHES MOTHS

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/clothes-moth>

General:

- There are two types of clothes moths (case making and webbing) that may cause serious damage to materials of animal origin such as feathers, wool, furs, mummified carcasses and piano felts, or to material of plant origin such as tobacco, various herbs, seasonings and assorted plant-based drugs.
- Clothes moths have world-wide distribution and are found throughout Canada and the United States.

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- They avoid light and are most commonly found in dark locations such as basements, attics and closets. Within these locations, moths can be found in the folds of fabrics or hiding in corners. Moths are capable of infesting a home long before their populations are noticed. As a result, substantial damage can occur to clothing or furnishings.
- Regular inspection of clothing, carpets and other materials made of natural fibres is essential, as is regular cleaning of these materials.

2.22 FLEAS

<http://ca.abellpestcontrol.com/pests/flea>
<http://www.orkin.com/other/fleas/>

General:

- Fleas are parasites, feeding on blood. They are found on the host and in various household cracks and crevices where they shelter after feeding. They are also found in pet bedding.
- Fleas are troublesome pests carried on mammals and birds. They infest homes, bird cages and poultry houses. Both males and females bite and suck blood. The bite often leaves an itchy, red spot. Some kinds of fleas transmit diseases such as bubonic plague, endemic typhus and tularemia to humans.
- In homes, they develop in crevices in flooring, and along baseboards, under edges of rugs, and between cushions in upholstered furniture.
- The use of a quality flea shampoo on your pet during the peak summer season will help prevent an infestation.
- Since the immature stages of fleas are very cryptic by nature, the first thing the homeowner should do is contact their pest control professional for assistance. Most of the time simply using over-the-counter products for controlling fleas will not resolve the root causes of the infestation.

2.23 EARWIGS

<http://www.orkin.com/other/earwigs/>

General:

- Earwigs are active at night. During the day they hide in cracks in damp areas. They live under rocks and logs and in mulch in flowerbeds. Earwigs eat plants and insects.
- Outdoors, earwigs spend the winter in small burrows in the ground. In spring the female lays eggs in the burrow. She tends the eggs until they hatch. Then she cares for the nymphs until they can find their own food.
- Earwigs are attracted to lights. They can become a nuisance on porches and patios on summer evenings. In the morning they will be gathered under things like cushions that were left outside overnight.
- Earwigs move into homes to find food or because of a change in weather.



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- Homeowners often find them in areas where there is water – kitchens, bathrooms, and laundries. Earwigs can also find their way into bedrooms and family rooms. They turn up in almost every part of the house.
- The most important part of controlling earwigs is eliminating their hiding places. If the earwig harborages are not addressed, insecticide application will probably not control earwigs very well. There are a variety of things that can be done.