



ADVANCE

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SUMMER 2019



Focus on Summer Pest Control

ADDRESSING OUR CUSTOMERS' TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL CONCERNS SINCE 1985.



Hiring a Pest Management Professional for Bed Bug Control

Treating bed bugs is **complex** and most people elect to hire professionals to lead the effort. Because professional treatments can be expensive, it's important to research your options to find the best fit for you.

The company you hire should use IPM ("Integrated Pest Management"), which will include monitoring for any bed bugs that have been missed during treatment. Because this is your home, you want to help too in an effort to maximize your chances for success when working with a professional:

- ◆ Get a pest management professional (PMP) involved as soon as possible. Taking time to try to treat the problem yourself could help the infestation spread.
- ◆ Prepare for multiple visits, as many infestations are not controlled with only one treatment.
- ◆ Hire a PMP experienced in treating bed bug infestations. Check the company's credentials.
- ◆ Follow guidelines on how to prepare for control, which will include laundering and cleaning.
- ◆ Expect the PMP to inspect your residence, take apart furniture if necessary and use vacuums, heat and pesticides to treat the infestation.

For more tips on how to choose a pest control company, read the [EPA's Citizen's Guide to Pest Control and Pesticide Safety](#).



TAKING THE **STING** OUT OF SUMMER

- ◇ Wear shoes, especially in grassy areas.
- ◇ Over-seed grassy areas to get better coverage, as this will deter ground-nesting insects.
- ◇ **DO NOT** swat at a stinging insect as it increases the likelihood of an aggressive reaction.
- ◇ Avoid wearing sweet smelling perfumes.
- ◇ **Do not attempt to remove a nest on your own.** If you have an infestation, call our office for qualified help.
- ◇ Remove garbage frequently and keep trash cans covered.
- ◇ Ensure all doors and windows have screens in good condition.
- ◇ See immediate medical attention if stung, as reactions can be severe.



REAL ESTATE INSPECTIONS



For sellers and buyers, a home inspection is the end of a simple sale process or the beginning of a new negotiation. Termite inspections are often part of the process. There have lately been concerns about this process.

In Kansas, a home inspector should not comment in his/her reports on pest control matters, including termites, unless the inspector has a pest control license. Even then, a home inspector can only comment on matters related to the license he or she holds. For example, a home inspector who has a 7e license (structural pest) cannot comment on wood-destroying insects unless he also has a 7a (wood-destroying) license if the inspector intends to include that information in the home inspection report.

Kansas does not license home inspectors, as licensing was repealed by the Kansas Legislature in 2013. As new home inspectors enter the market, they may be unaware they are not to comment on pest control matters. This has become an increasing problem as some home inspectors are putting pest control assessments in reports, despite not have the proper, or any, pest control license(s). Kansas law is clear that pest control assessments should only be done by those who are properly licensed in categories for which the assessment is being conducted.

This is a best practice guideline that protects both sellers and buyers and limits future issues that might arise and lead to litigation involving any of the parties involved in the sale, including realtors.

Be on the lookout for this practice by home inspectors and visit with realtors to ensure they are only allowing pest control assessments to be provided by licensed pest management professionals. Interested parties may want to contact the Kansas Pest Control Association which address any concerns a buyer, seller or realtor might have regarding this issue. 785.271.9220 or kansaspest@yahoo.com.

Mosquito Prevention 101

Mosquitoes require an aquatic habitat for their early stages of development. By simply removing water resources in which mosquitoes may develop, you can help keep mosquitoes at bay near your home this summer:

- ◇ Don't over water your yard/garden. Standing water becomes a source for mosquito eggs.
- ◇ Empty and refill bird baths at least once weekly.
- ◇ Remove standing water from plant saucers.
- ◇ Change pet dish water once weekly.
- ◇ Change water in kiddie pools and fountains at least once weekly.
- ◇ Make sure trash can lids are on tight so no water gets inside. Upside-down lids can also serve as water reservoirs.
- ◇ Clean gutters on house and make sure water is flowing properly away from house.
- ◇ Fill in mud puddles.
- ◇ Grade yard so water moves away from house and yard.
- ◇ Check tree stumps for standing water.
- ◇ Make sure tire swings and old tires are emptied of standing water and keep swimming pools drained or covered during off months and treated properly during the summer season.
- ◇ Add bubblers or fountains to lakes or ponds to keep the surface constantly rippling.



Experience enables you to recognize a mistake every time you repeat it.

This newsletter is intended to bring you information to make your life easier and more enjoyable. Please pass this Newsletter along to friends and relatives who might need our services.

If you have questions or comments, please call our office at 662.3616 or 800.536.3614 or e-mail us at advance@advancepest.com.

We sincerely appreciate your business!

TIDBITS

“Character is made by many acts; it is lost in a single one.” – Author Unknown

“Live and teach good values, constantly and consistently.” – Anne Ortlund.

“It is better to build strong children than to try to repair adults.” – Author Unknown