



FEND OFF Pests this Fall

Prepared by:





As fall approaches, it's important to begin preparing for the upcoming winter by making sure that your property is pest-free. As the cold winds begin to blow, many pests begin to seek shelter indoors. If not caught early, these pests can then begin to reproduce and cause a serious infestation.

So, what pests should you expect in the fall and how do you fend them off? In this guide, you'll find out the answers to these questions and more!



Pests You Can Expect to See in the Fall

Before you can fend off fall pests, you need to know which ones to watch out for. Here is a list of the most common pests you can expect to see in the fall along with a few guidelines for how to recognize their arrival.

COMMON HOUSE SPIDERS

Spiders may be a popular element of fall décor, but the last thing a person needs is to have them spin a web in their home. Fortunately, most of the spiders in New England are not poisonous. However, the occasional brown recluse or black widow may be found in a building. Even non-poisonous spiders, such as wolf and jumping varieties can still pack a painful bite.

Therefore, you will want a thorough inspection of your home to eliminate webs before spiders reproduce.

STINK BUGS

If left unchecked, a stink bug infestation can be unsightly in homes and will eat newly grown garden produce. For instance, stink bugs can create a large amount of damage in orchards and gardens due to their diet which consists of legumes, fruits, and vegetables.

When finding a stinkbug, a person's first response is to squish them as they would any other household pest. Unfortunately, doing so will cause them to release a noxious odor that can spread through the home. Using a vacuum or broom is one way to remove individual stinkbugs.

A BROWN STINKBUG IS SHOWN HERE.



BED BUGS

Currently, bed bug infestations are on the rise and seasonal travel can pose a risk for more infestations. During the fall and upcoming holiday season, be on the lookout for signs of a bed bug infestation. Although these tiny bugs are hard to see, you can try finding them by turning off the lights and looking for them along the seams of furniture and mattresses with a flashlight. Another way to determine if there are bed bugs is if you notice bites that look like lines on your skin after sleeping.

LADY BUGS

Most of the time, you love it when you see a lady bug. However, when you see an infestation of Asian lady beetles in your home, you should worry. While Asian lady beetles are a type of lady bug, they are known as the "bad type" because they tend to infest attic boxes and ruin their contents. In fact, they can emit a foul odor and a yellowish liquid which may stain walls and belongings. These lady bugs may also bite humans since they eat other insects.

BES AND WASPS

Stinging insects, such as bees and wasps, can be one of the more painful pests to deal with in the fall. They are bold, flying insects and can choose just about any location around your yard to make their nest. While these insects play an important role in our environment by pollinating plants, they can pose a serious danger to those who are allergic to their stings.

RODENTS

During the fall, rodents invade buildings in search of a place to nest when the weather turns cold. Keeping buildings free of clutter can help eliminate the hiding places that mice and squirrels prefer to set up their nests.

In addition to being a nuisance, rodents can be a serious health hazard. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the white-footed mouse is commonly associated with being a carrier of the Hantavirus, which can cause serious illnesses in humans. Be on the lookout for mouse sightings, droppings, and nests made from shredded materials.

CONCLUSION

Effective pest control plans should always include seasonal inspections to check for pests that invade buildings in search of a warm place to stay during the fall and winter. By staying alert for the most common fall pests, such as those mentioned above, you can be sure that your property is safe for everyone.

Dealing with Fall Pests

Now that you know what to look out for, how can you prevent these pests from entering your home this fall? Below are a few tips on how to make your home pest-free.

SEAL ALL ENTRY-POINTS

A seasonal inspection of the exterior of a home is essential for preventing pest infestations. For example, stinkbugs can squeeze through tiny cracks around windows, beneath doors, and around siding due to their small size.

If holes are found, sealing them with caulk or weather-stripping material will keep pests outdoors. Be sure to keep lights dim around these areas to avoid attracting pests to a potential entrance.



EFFECTIVE LANDSCAPING

Many infestations often begin in outdoor areas, such as gardens, and then move into the home when the weather turns cold. Practicing proper landscaping can eliminate pests before they have a chance to spread.

Keeping lawns trimmed and branches away from the house will make it more difficult for pests (such as stink bugs, bed bugs, and lady bugs) to travel indoors. Finally, repair leaks to avoid creating a moisture-rich environment where pests like to live.

PRACTICE PROPER FOOD STORAGE

Many household pests can thrive on food crumbs and any unsealed contents of a home's pantry. Therefore, all food should be stored in airtight containers.

When you are sealing your food, be aware that pests, such as mice, will also eat pet food, seeds, and can subsist on the tiniest of spills. Clean up all food as soon as possible and try to put out only enough food for your pets to eat at one meal.

It's important to start early with preventative measures because once you have an infestation, it's hard to get rid of it. In addition to sanitation and exterior repairs, you may also consider having a professional service do a thorough inspection to identify any areas you may have missed. Then, you can enjoy the fall season without worrying about pests infiltrating your home.



HOW TO KEEP BEES AND WASPS AWAY FROM YOUR HOME

While the tips above are very effective at preventing most pest infestations, what about bees and wasps? Unlike spiders, lady bugs, and mice, bees and wasps are a nuisance even when they're not inside your house.

To help you fight off these stinging pests, here is everything you need to know about how to keep bees and wasps away from your home.

BEWARE OF AGGRESSIVE SPECIES

According to the University of New Hampshire, there are more than nine different species of yellow-jacket wasps in the state. Furthermore, there are many other types of aggressive flying insects in New England, including bumblebees, paper wasps, and bald-faced hornets.

Often, it's impossible for a person to tell what type of stinging insect is swarming their home without getting close enough to be stung. Therefore, it's best to assume that any bees or wasps near a person's home are aggressive so that the appropriate measures can be taken to prevent stings.

BEE AND WASP CONTROL METHODS

If a person finds bees or wasps near their home, they will need to eliminate them before the bees build a larger colony. For a small hive, simply removing the hive can eliminate the infestation immediately.

Due to the increased risk of stings when removing a hive, many people prefer to spray the hive with a pesticide. When doing so, it's important to wear protective clothing while staying as far away as possible.

To make the home less attractive to bees and wasps in the future, a person may also keep flowering plants away from the home and clean the overhead eaves and corners where wasps may build their nests.



Know When to Call a Professional

Although it may be tempting for homeowners to handle an infestation on their own, there are several times when it will be necessary to call a professional. For example, infestations may be too large for homeowners to handle on their own.

Moreover, trying to remove certain pests without the help of a professional can be dangerous to you and your home's occupants. Below are two examples of when you should always call a pest control professional.

BEE AND WASP HIVES

First off, never attempt to remove a hive on your own if you are allergic to bee or wasp stings. Additionally, larger hives can contain thousands of bees. If the swarm becomes aggressive, a person may require hospitalization to recover from their injuries.

In instances such as these, a professional bee and wasp removal service can help remove the bees while making recommendations for ways to prevent another infestation in the future.

BED BUG INFESTATION

Another example of when you should call a professional is if you have bed bugs. Do-it-yourself bed bug control is often ineffective and may even be hazardous to home residents.

Common mistakes made with bed bug treatments that can cause infestations to worsen the situation include moving infested furniture to another room or placing bug bombs in infested rooms. Both of these methods will drive bed bugs into other areas of the home. Aggressively bug bombing or sprinkling over-the-counter pesticides may also pose a threat to the health of home residents.

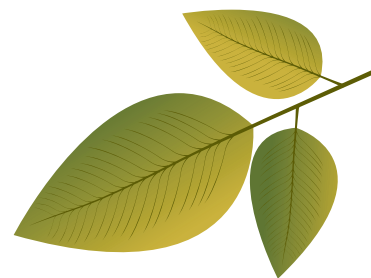
Instead, call a pest control company immediately when you discover a bed bug infestation.


WHO SHOULD YOU CALL?

When you're dealing with a dangerous pest infestation, who should you call? Bain Pest Control of course! When a pest issue arises in your home, you want your problem addressed as quickly as possible. Bain has the resources to get to you quickly and solve your pest problem in a professional manner.

So, why is Bain Pest Control better than other pest control professionals? One reason is that Bain Pest Control is certified by the following programs:

- Quality Pro
- Quality Pro Green
- Quality Pro Schools
- BedbugFREE
- Dow AgroSciences Sentricon®
- MA FAC 74 State Approved Vendors List
- IPM Registry





Why do all of these certifications matter? Since **Bain Pest Control** is certified across the board for all of your pest control needs, you know you are being taken care of by a highly trained, highly qualified pest management professional who knows and understands how to provide you with the most effective, environmentally responsible treatments in the industry.

If you have a pest infestation, call **Bain Pest Control** and receive professional, courteous service that you can rely on!



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