
**SELF HELP
PEST CONTROL GUIDE
FOR OCCUPANTS
OF MILITARY HOUSING**



**Navy Housing
Ventura County**

PEST

METHODS OF CONTROL

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

WHAT TO USE

WHERE TO TREAT



American Roach



German Roach

Aerosol Spray

Roach Bait Stations

Sticky Traps

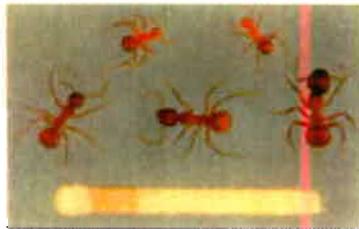
Boric Acid Powder

ROACHES

Spray in cracks and crevices around, under, and inside cupboards and cabinets. Spray under kitchen sink, around motor compartment of refrigerators, around dishwasher and other kitchen equipment, in vegetable bins, and under table tops. Spray along and behind loose baseboards and molding strips, window and door frames, and areas where pipes go through walls and floors. In bathrooms, spray around tub, sink and commode. *Do not* spray entire walls or floors. Treatments should be repeated once every two weeks until no roaches are observed. In addition to aerosol, roach bait stations and sticky traps should be placed under cabinets and behind or under appliances.

NOTE: Before spraying cupboards or vegetable bins, remove contents and clean thoroughly. Do not treat inside of drawers. After spraying cupboard shelves, allow to dry, then cover with clean fresh shelf paper before replacing articles. Do not contaminate food, dishes or utensils. Apply only enough spray to moisten surfaces, but not to the point where the spray will drip or run.

REMARKS: Good housekeeping (not leaving food scraps around) and the use of insecticides when necessary are the only sure ways of having a roach-free home. Practice good sanitation. Roaches prefer warm, dark, out-of-sight areas where there is a good source of water and food. They are flat, fast-moving insects that are active at night and hide during the day. Several kinds of roaches infest homes in the United States. These include the American, German, Oriental, and the brownbanded cockroach. They vary in size from $\frac{1}{2}$ to nearly 2 inches in length and are tan to black in color. Eggs are laid in a capsule that is placed in out-of-the-way areas by the female roach; young roaches may not hatch from some of these capsules for several weeks.



Ants

Aerosol Spray

Ant Bait

Boric Acid Powder

ANTS

Ants can be controlled by treating areas where they have been seen. It is especially important to treat openings that ants are using to enter the house or room. Spray over surfaces where ants are crawling in their line of march. Treat lower part of window frames and around doors including the doorsill. Spray baseboards and the floor close to baseboards, and cracks or crevices that ants may be using as entry points. Spray around sinks, bathtubs, toilets, kitchen cabinets and connecting pipes, under refrigerator and around other kitchen equipment. *Do not* spray entire walls or floors. After a few days, if ants are still seen, they are probably entering from areas that have not been treated. Locate and spray these entry points.

NOTE: Do not contaminate food, dishes or utensils when spraying in kitchen areas.

REMARKS: Nearly all ants you see in homes are wingless workers in search of food to take back to the nest which is outside. Good housekeeping will help keep ants out of your home. Do not leave food exposed either in containers or on cooking utensils. Clean up crumbs and spilled liquids and cover food containers carefully. Wash food counters regularly. Several kinds of ants enter homes. Some ants prefer sweet foods while others like fats, grease and meat. Most ants that invade homes are small, ranging from about $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length. They vary in color from light brown to shiny black. Remember—cleanliness (removing the food source) will help keep ants away. If you cannot control ants, call the Engineer for pest control services.



Silverfish

Aerosol Spray

SILVERFISH

Spray in areas where silverfish are seen—usually closets, under sinks and in cool, damp places. Spray baseboards and the floor close to baseboards, around door and window casings, under sinks and around openings where pipes go through walls and floors. In bathrooms, spray around tub, sink and commode. Treat also along the base of walls and floors in basements. *Do not* spray entire walls or floors. Usually, more than one treatment is needed for good control. Spray again in 2 or 3 weeks if you continue to see silverfish.

REMARKS: Silverfish are wingless, fast-moving insects about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long when full grown. The body tapers from head to tail and is covered with thin scales which give it a silvery shiny appearance. These insects have three tail-like filaments, each about as long as the body. They feed on such things as wallpaper, book bindings and starched clothing. Although silverfish may be found in almost any part of the house, cool, damp basements are ideal locations for these insects.

PEST

METHODS OF CONTROL

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

WHAT TO USE

WHERE TO TREAT



House Fly

Aerosol Spray

Fly Swatter

HOUSE FLIES

The best way to keep flies out of your home is to make sure screens in windows and doors are tight fitting and in good repair. When only a few flies are found in the house, use a fly swatter to get rid of them instead of a spray. Space spraying (that is, spraying into the air so that flies contact the insecticide as they fly through the mist) should only be done when many flies are in a room. If screens are properly installed, doors are kept closed, and you use a fly swatter, then the use of insecticide sprays will rarely be needed.

NOTE: When space spraying, make sure all food, dishes and utensils are covered.

REMARKS: Practice good sanitation. This is the best way to keep from attracting flies into your home. Clean up food scraps and keep food containers covered. House flies will breed where garbage or manure accumulates. These breeding sites are the source of adult flies that will next enter your home. Keep garbage cans tightly covered and clean them often. Promptly clean up pet droppings. If everyone practices good sanitation, flies will be less of a problem in a neighborhood.



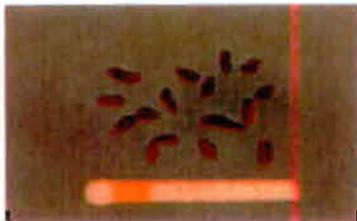
House Mouse

Snap Trap



HOUSE MICE

One of the first steps in controlling mice is to seal any holes in walls, floors and foundation of the house to prevent mice from entering. The next step is to see that food is not left in places where mice can get to it. Place foods such as bird seed and pet food in tight-fitting containers such as metal or plastic garbage cans. If mice are found in the house, and there are only a few of them, they usually can be disposed of with ordinary snap traps. Before setting the snap trap, place a small portion of bait on the trigger surface. Good baits to use are peanut butter, gum drop (candy), or bacon. Traps should be placed along walls and out-of-the-way areas where mice travel. Place traps at a right angle to walls with the trigger mechanism toward the wall. Traps should be placed where pets or children cannot reach them.



Droppings



Snap Trap & Placement

REMARKS: Mice are usually more of a pest in the fall when the weather turns cold and they move from outdoor areas into the home. They will eat nearly any kind of food stuffs and damage goods in search of nesting material. The house mouse is tiny and measures about 2½ to 3½ inches in length. The tail is about as long as the body. They vary in color from grayish to brown with a white to dark gray belly. Besides evidence of feeding on food stuffs and damage to goods, the presence of mice in the home is indicated by the tiny droppings they leave behind.



Swarming Termites

Aerosol Spray



Termite vs. Ant

TERMITES

One of the first indications of a termite infestation is the presence of large numbers of winged termites emerging or swarming from the soil or from areas in the home. While you may not see the actual flight of the insects, you may find discarded wings and some dead adult termites on the floor beneath windows and doors. The adults are attracted by strong light in these areas when they emerge within buildings. Swarming usually occurs during spring but may also occur during the summer and sometimes in the fall in warmer parts of the country. The adults are yellow-brown to black in color and have two pairs of long whitish transparent wings of equal size. Termites differ from winged ants by having a straighter body and no pinched "waist"; ants have a narrow "waist" like a wasp and wings of unequal size.

REMARKS: When swarming termites are noticed, you should contact the Engineer for pest control services.