

# Integrated Pest Management



**Rodents** (e.g., rats, mice) destroy property and spread disease, such as plague, salmonellosis, tularemia, and rat-bite fever.

- Eliminate food sources.
- Eliminate breeding and nesting places.
- Close entry points, such as holes and cracks in building.
- Trap and kill.

The **cockroach** is an allergen source and an asthma trigger for some individuals.

- Inspect boxes and bags being carried into the facility.
- Quickly clean food particles from shelving and floors. Clean after food preparation and meals. Routinely clean under refrigerators, stoves, and similar areas.
- Store food products (including pet food) properly in tight containers.
- Seal cracks and crevices. Eliminate moisture sources.
- Place roach traps against corner walls, under sinks, in cabinets, etc.

Bites from **ticks and fleas** can cause itching and skin infection. These pests can also transmit disease, such as Lyme disease and plague.

- Thoroughly clean the environment every day. Vacuum carpet, upholstery, floors and crevices, and under furniture. Launder bedding and throw rugs. Clean in cabinets and other shelving.
- Simultaneously treat all pets and their environments.
- Mow, rake, and clean up the outside environment.
- If necessary, treat the indoor and/or outdoor environment with appropriate pesticide.

**Fire ants** are aggressive and give painful bites and stings. Infants and toddlers may receive numerous stings before escaping or receiving assistance. Severe allergy to fire ants can cause anaphylaxis.

Fire ant mounds can be found in lawns, fields, parks, and even inside vehicles. They often nest around heat pumps, junction boxes, and other sources of electricity.

- Locate and treat all mounds in the area.
- Use bait, which is picked up by worker ants and taken deep into the mound to the queen.
- Apply bait when ants are active. Mound treatment is

usually most effective in the spring.

**Mosquitoes** can cause irritating bites, which can result in skin infection from scratching. They also can carry disease, such as West Nile virus infection, encephalitis, and Dengue Fever.

Mosquitoes breed in standing water and moist areas. Eliminating standing water stops breeding and reduces the need for adult mosquito control.

- Turn over or dispose of tires, buckets, cans, and other items that can hold water. Clean roof gutters and drain flat roofs.
- Empty water play containers and wading pools after use. Clean and chlorinate swimming pools.
- Change water in birdbaths and troughs twice a week.
- Stock ponds or ornamental pools with fish.
- Contact local resources to treat roadside ditches or similar areas.
- If necessary, treat standing water with appropriate products that kill larvae (e.g., s-methoprene) and which are non-toxic to fish and animals.

**Bed bugs** are small wingless insects that feed upon blood. Adult bed bugs are about 1/4 of an inch in length. Find a live bed bug before you take action! Similar bites can be caused by fleas or other pests.

- Look for bedbugs in the folds of bed linens, and seams and tufts of mattresses and box springs. Also, check curtains, beneath loose wallpaper, behind baseboards, and in other areas near cribs and cots.
- Trap bugs by wrapping duct tape around the legs of beds.
- Contact [www.Identify.US.com](http://www.Identify.US.com) or a local resource for positive identification of bed bugs.

To control bed bugs:

- Reduce clutter and thoroughly clean infested rooms, as well as the entire facility. Dismantle beds, remove drawers, and clear shelves; then thoroughly vacuum.
- Encase mattresses and box springs with special mattress bags. Check and use permanent tape to seal any holes or tears.
- If pesticide use is necessary, contact a licensed pest control operator.