

TERMITE FACTS

1. Termites cause more damage than tornadoes, hail storms, wind storms, and hurricanes combined.
2. Termites cost Americans more than \$1 billion each year.
3. You can buy insurance for many sources of home damage, but not for termites.
4. Termites have been around for more than 240 million years. They adapt to ever changing environments. Termites are nature's way to break down wood and return it to the soil.
5. Termites can not determine the difference between the wood in the forest where your home was built and the wood members of your home.
6. Termites can infest almost every part of your home.
7. Termites can enter your home through a crack or opening as thin as a piece of paper.
8. Termites never stop working and eating. They work 24 hours a day.
9. Termite colonies can average more than a million termites.

MAINTENANCE TIPS TO HELP REDUCE TERMITE INFESTATIONS

- 1) If you live in an area where termites are a known problem, we recommend that you have your home inspected for termites once each year and before buying a home, or prior to selling a home.
- 2) Avoid wood to ground contact such as wood siding (6 inches minimum clearance between wood siding and the soil).
- 3) Wood decking built on the soil surface or wood members in contact with the soil should be treated.
- 4) Excessive moisture under or adjacent to the structure. AC condensate drain line draining next to the foundation or poor surface drainage. AC condensate drain line should drain at least 5 feet from the foundation. Poor surface drainage should be improved. Use the advice of a professional in this area due to the possibility of causing foundation and or drainage problems.
- 5) Foliage growing next to and/or on the structure (Vines and shrubs are common problems) should be trimmed back and away from the structure..
- 6) Wood pile adjacent to the structure should be removed.
- 7) Wood fence in contact with the structure should have at least 6 inches of clearance or be treated.
- 8) Wood used in and over foundation expansion joints should be removed and the joints treated.
- 9) Tree branches contacting the structure should be cut back from the structure..
- 10) Wood form boards left in place around the foundation should be removed or treated.