

Extermination Services, Inc.

Rodent guard.



Mice and rats are a serious pest problem for many people, causing significant damage and presenting potential disease and health risks. While rodent activity is more pronounced in the cold months, rodents are active all year round, and a few mice in your house in July can turn into dozens by January. That's why Pro Tech Pest Control offers Rodent Guard as an add-on service for our semiannual customers.

The Rodent Guard service is a combined program of services designed to not only remove rodents already in the home, but prevent them from coming back. The service includes inspecting

your home for rodent infestation, blocking pests from getting in, and setting tamper resistant bait stations and traps to remove the rodents already present. We offer a six-month warranty on our work and special pricing is available for additional clean out services.

Preventive and maintenance care via Rodent Guard can save you 40-60% off the normal cost of rodent clean out services, so an ounce of prevention really is worth a pound of cure. **Call us for more information and to schedule an appointment.**

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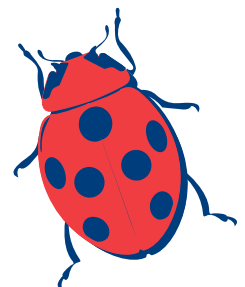
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Special thank you

We here at Pro Tech Pest Control have worked very hard to earn your confidence and trust and will continue to do so every day. Without reliable, professional, friendly and effective service, we would not have customers, and without customers, there would be no Pro Tech Pest Control. So we would like to thank you for choosing us, and allowing us to serve you.

Thanks,
The Pro Tech Team.



By the Numbers

▶ STATISTICS FROM THE PEST MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY

Huge-Hitting Bed Bugs Article

You've heard about the onslaught of bed bugs spreading across the country, but is it hype or reality? According to Mike Potter, professor and urban entomologist at the University of Kentucky, the rapidly increasing number of hits on the university's bed bug page is proof that people are becoming increasingly concerned and need help controlling and avoiding infestations. Check out the page at www.uky.edu/Agriculture/Entomology/entfacts/struct/ef636.htm.

Year	No. of Hits On the Bed Bugs Article
1998	1,312
2001	14,786
2003	75,565
2005	More than 350,000
2006*	More than 1,000,000*

Projected based on data through the first four months of the year (270,600 hits January-April, 2006).



HOT Mosquito Control Niches

"I am extremely likely to hire a pest management company to treat my yard for mosquitoes."

Women	10%
Men	3%
Children in Household	9%
No Children	3%

* Household income of those surveyed reported at \$75,000 or more.

Sources: PPMA and International Communications Research.

Want to know more? Contact the National Pest Management Association at 800-678-6722 or www.pestworld.org.



Are you attracting rats and mice?

With cold and stormy weather coming on, rats and mice are coming into homes and other buildings, looking for a more sheltered place to spend the winter. Of the many species of rats and mice, the worst pests all arrived as stowaways on ships from Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries. These invasive species are expertly adapted to living in and around our dwellings.

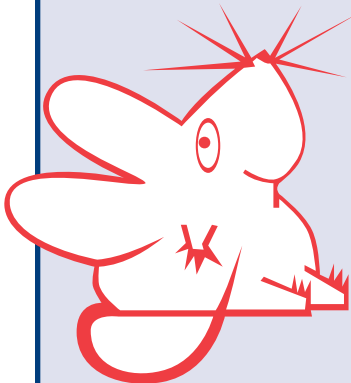
Rodents present a variety of health hazards; they contaminate food and property with their urine, droppings and hair. They also have the potential for carrying diseases and fleas, plus they leave a certain smell, and can cause damage by their gnawing. Most people however, want them out of their home simply because they find them so repulsive!

Here are some things you can do outdoors to make your home a little less attractive to wandering rodents:

- Reduce clutter and junk outdoors that creates hiding places.
- Trim back vines, trim down ground covers, and trim up shrubs to provide clearance underneath.
- Pick up any nuts and overripe fruit, and throw out or bury spilled bird seed.
- Don't leave out pet food overnight.

- Raise woodpiles off the ground, or move the pile away from your home.
- Properly pest-proofing a home to seal up cracks or holes these pests squeeze through can greatly reduce problems.

Mice and rats are much more likely to invade a home where they find easy entry.



Fall Invaders

Whether it's EEK!!, or UGH!!, or YUCK!!!, most of us have a natural revulsion for mice and rats. These pests appear unexpectedly indoors throughout the year. But it's during the fall, as temperatures start to cool and the food outdoors is harder to find, that the number of invading mice and rats increases dramatically.

Mice indoors tend to be omnivorous, eating most anything that is available, although cereals, crumbs and grains are among their favorite foods.

Keep in mind that mice and rats multiply faster when they have plenty of food, water, and shelter. For instance, mice give birth to from 2-13 young every 30-50 days. If they have everything they need, the litters are large and close together. Their numbers increase rapidly when this happens. So it's important to eliminate the food, water, and shelter available to mice and rats.

If you need advice on what you can do to reduce and eliminate these pests, please call us.

Your questions are answered

Q: Are insects less of a problem after an extremely cold winter?

A: Insects are experts at overwintering, so for most pests, an unusually cold winter and spring will not kill them, though it may delay slightly when they come out and start causing problems.

Insects have many ways of surviving winter. Some find a protected

place and sleep through most of the winter (that protected place may be your home, or underground), others migrate to a warmer place, and still others lay weather-resistant eggs that hatch in the warmth of spring.

To help in overwintering, many insects produce a natural anti-freeze-type substance in their bodies, allowing them to survive even freezing temperatures. Some

insects use multiple strategies. Carpenter ants, for instance, have the anti-freeze, plus they often move their colony to a more protected place.

If pests find their way inside your home during the winter, you may see even more of them than usual. But don't be fooled! Even if you don't see pests now, expect them to be back sooner than you'd like!

Bed bug tips in hotels

Bed-bugs are a growing problem in the United States, especially in urban hotels and airport hotels. Before booking a hotel room, you may want to read user reviews of the particular hotel and location. Bedbugs are among the most frequent problems reported online. Bear in mind that a report about one hotel does not mean the issue wasn't isolated to one room, or that hotel management hasn't since taken steps to rectify the infestation.

Still concerned? When traveling you may want to check your bed for telltale signs of bedbugs. This was a common practice years ago. Before jumping into bed, here are a few spot check tips:

- Peel back the bed sheets and check the mattress, running your fingers along the upper and lower seams. Make sure to

check the mattress tag, bed bugs often hide there.

- Experts recommend removing and examining the headboard if possible. Check for tiny black spots (excrement) that are smaller than poppy seeds. You may also see translucent light brown skins or, in the case of an active infestation — live bugs.
- Check the bedside table. Look for signs of bed bugs in the drawers and along the wall on the side of the bed that is less likely to be disturbed by cleaning staff and guests.
- You may want to elevate suitcases and keep them off the floor, like on a luggage stand.
- If you see powder in the drawers or on the headboard, it is likely that the room has already been treated for bed bugs by an exterminator.

- If bed bugs are detected, travelers should request another room. Be sure to inform hotel management.

- Just moving to a different room may not be the final answer. You should repeat the thorough inspection of any new or different room you are offered.

- When you pack to leave, inspect your luggage carefully first, and inspect every item as you pack to help detect any bugs or their signs. Laundering most cloth items with typical hot water and detergent followed by drying on low heat for at least 20 minutes (or standard dry cleaning) should kill all bed bugs in or on such items. Sealing freshly-laundered items inside a plastic bag should help keep any more bed bugs from getting in those items later to hide (and be carried back with you).



Trivia – Challenge Yourself and Friends with These!

- 1 What do cats and cockroaches have in common?
- 2 What live insects are now being sold in vending machines?
- 3 Invented a "better mousetrap" lately? How many patents for mousetraps has the U.S. Patent Office issued?
- 4 How many droppings a day does one mouse produce?

Answers to Pest Trivia!

1. Both are affected by catnip, only in very different ways. The active ingredient that drives cats wild in catnip is nepetalactone. This same compound, in a pure form, was recently found to be a good cockroach repellent. Catnip leaves, though, are not strong enough to have any effect on roaches.
2. The Japanese have begun using vending machines to sell pet beetles. The large stag beetles can be sold live because eager kids usually snap them up as soon as the machines are filled.
3. 4,400 mousetrap patents have been issued since the 19th Century.
4. From about 40 to up to 100 daily; rats leave 40 to 50.