

Nuisance Ants

There are a number of small ants found in our area that are not considered wood-destroying but can be an extreme nuisance. Common nuisance ants of the Pacific Northwest:

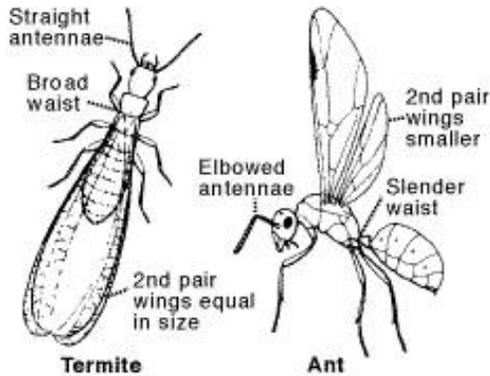
Argentine Ant - typically nests in moist soil next to or under buildings, along sidewalks or beneath boards and plants near a good source of water. (see 19eArgentineAnt for further information)

Odorous House Ant – nests are located in a variety of situations. When crushed they give out an unpleasant odor. They frequently nest in walls and under floors and tend to move into a house late in the year when their food supply outside is limited. (see 19dOdorousHouseAnts for further information)

Pavement Ant – nests usually found outdoors under stones and under cracks of pavement, but sometimes in walls and insulation. They are a particular nuisance with slab-on-grade construction. They often enter a building in search of food with greasy and sweet materials being preferred. (See 19cPavementAnt for further information)

Pharaoh Ant – an ant that is very hard to control as the nests are rarely found, but occur between walls, in ceilings, behind baseboards and almost anywhere. They like warm places around heat ducts or near water pipes and furnaces. Attempts to use sprays will often split the nest and increase their presence. (see 19bPharaohAnts for further information)

PREVENTION: It is always a good idea to put food stuffs away, wipe up spills and generally practice good sanitation. Good sanitation also involves eliminating nesting sites outside, like piles of wood or debris against the house. They may be discouraged from entering by sealing up cracks. Nuisance ants may still enter in spite of your best efforts. A periodic preventive treatment around the outside may be necessary and we prefer baiting methods inside. For more information on service give us a call.



Ant reproduction insects (called “swarmers”) have wings and are sometimes mistaken for termites. You can tell the difference as ants have a pinched waist and pointed wing tips. The termite has a thick waist and rounded wing tips.



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