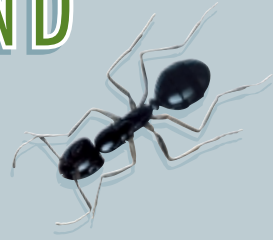


A RESPONSIBLE APPROACH TO

pest control

IN AND AROUND

YOUR HOME



Pests can come in many forms. Some, like termites, ants, grubs, and invasive weeds, can cause damage to our property. Some threaten our health by triggering allergic reactions and carrying disease. Some can contaminate food or damage possessions in your home. This information has been prepared to help you find the best solutions for your family should you have a pest problem in or around your home.

Responsible Options for Your Home

A few simple preventative measures can stop most problems before they begin. Even when pests do get in, there is often no need to use pesticides around the house. Instead, use a combination of preventative and control methods where required.

An Ounce of Prevention

PHYSICAL BARRIERS

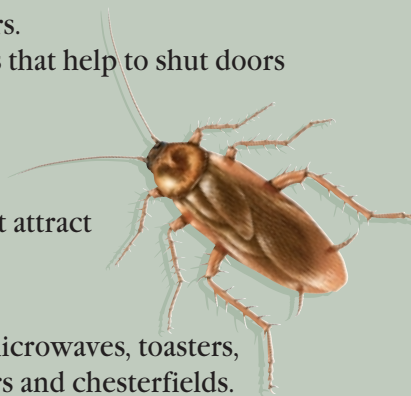
One of the simplest ways to control insects in your home is to physically keep them out.

- Check your windows and doors for entry points into your home.
- This involves taking all possible steps to reduce ant access into the home: caulking windows, ensuring windows are tight fitting and repairing cracks in foundations.
- Repair broken screens on windows and doors.
- Ensure that screen doors have strong springs that help to shut doors quickly and tightly.

REMOVE SOURCES OF FOOD

A clean house will reduce the food sources that attract insects and can lead to an infestation.

- Clean up food crumbs and beverage spills.
- Clean and vacuum regularly behind ovens, microwaves, toasters, refrigerators and under the cushions of chairs and chesterfields.
- Keep packaged food in tightly closed resealable containers.
- Store vegetable oils and shortenings in the refrigerator.
- Rinse glass, metal, plastic and paper food containers before throwing them in the garbage or recycling bins.
- Clean all kitchen surfaces and sweep and vacuum often.
- Enjoy all meals in the kitchen or dining area – especially those eaten by children.
- Take the garbage out frequently.
- Don't leave canned cat or dog food sitting out all day.
- Wash and dry dishes as soon as possible.
- Thoroughly clean winter clothes and woollens before storing.



Eliminate Attractive Conditions In and Around Your Home

LIGHT

- Avoid leaving porch lights on all evening to collect a cloud of moths and other insects. Every time the door is opened, the insects swirling around the light are swept into the house. Minimize the attraction time by turning porch lights on only when they are needed. Sensor lights that switch on in response to motion are ideal because they light the area for arriving guests, but switch off after a few minutes (which saves energy too.)
- When designing the lighting around the exterior of a new home, don't put light fixtures directly above the doors, especially over doors to decks or patios that might be used a lot in the evening. Place flood or spotlights a few feet away from the door and direct the light onto porches and stairs. This illuminates them safely, while keeping the mesmerized insects away from the door.
- Use yellow bulbs in yard light fixtures; flies and moths are not as attracted to yellow as they are to ordinary white light bulbs.
- Do not stack items (such as wood) against the house. They can become home to a variety of pests including insects and rodents.



DAMP ENVIRONMENTS

- Toss out old boxes and newspapers.
- Keep plumbing in good repair.
- Keep the basement dry.
- Run central air – reduces humidity in your home.
- Elimination of outdoor habitat is essential. Mulch, leaf litter, plant debris, stones, toys, birdbaths and boards can all provide habitats for various pests.
- Dry out bathtubs and sinks after use.



EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF OUTDOOR PESTS

- Monitor outdoor pest populations carefully because indoor pests enter your home from your yard.
- Remember that spiders, ladybugs, birds and butterflies all eat lots of insects. Flowers in your garden not only look and smell wonderful, but they can help to attract valuable wildlife that will control your insect population.
- Should the insect population hit levels at which you become concerned about infestation, refer to the tips recommended under *Responsible Options for the Lawn and Garden* in this brochure.



Control Methods - Consider These Options

FREEZING

Many insects, particularly clothes moths and stored food pests, can be killed by sealing the goods in plastic bags and placing them in the freezer for three to five days. This kills all stages of the pests without harming food or fabric. While the food or clothing is in the freezer, thoroughly vacuum and clean the cupboards to prevent re-infestation when the items are returned.

TRAPS AND FLY SWATTERS

These devices can provide adequate control when your insect problem has not reached a serious level.

PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS, ANOTHER TOOL

There may be times when you are faced with an invasion of pests overwhelming your usual methods of control. In such cases, ensure you select a product that is right for the job at hand.



Responsible Options for the Lawn and Garden

When it comes to pest problems in your lawn or garden, the best defense is a good offence. A healthy lawn is not only more enjoyable for you and your family, it's better able to resist drought and overcome pest problems more readily.

Healthy Lawns - Easily Yours

A GOOD START IS HALF THE BATTLE

- Building a thick and healthy lawn starts with overseeding with good quality, site specific (sun or shade), grass seed.
- Prepare the soil properly.
- Keep the seed moist after planting.

FERTILIZING MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

- Select a fertilizer that suits your lawn needs and your time commitment.
- Choose slow nitrogen release fertilizers for consistent, gradual feeding that promotes deep green colour.
- Read the package label for application timing and proper use.
- Combination fertilizer and weed control products should only be used on heavily weeded areas—they cannot prevent weeds that have not yet emerged.

MOWING – A CUT THAT NEVER GOES OUT OF STYLE

- Keep mower blades sharp and don't cut too short – never cut more than $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the grass blades in a single mowing.
- Set the mower to cut grass to 8cm (3") in the spring and fall. Cut to 10cm (4") during hot weather.
- Mowing once a week is usually sufficient.
- Allow grass cuttings, if not too heavy, to remain on the lawn to decompose, providing valuable nutrients for your lawn.

SOAK DON'T SPRINKLE FOR A MORE DROUGHT-RESISTANT LAWN

- Water once a week with about 1" of water rather than sprinkling lightly every day. Light sprinkling promotes shallow root growth and makes your lawn more susceptible to drought.
- Water in the morning to avoid evaporation. (Watering in the evening can promote fungus.)
- Increase watering if you note a silvery blue tinge to the grass or if the grass doesn't spring back when you walk across it.

Responsible Options for Your Lawn and Garden

Some plants are unwanted because they possess thorns or prickles. Some trigger allergies. But not all “weeds” are harmful or ugly. Some feature pretty flowers and delicate leaves. The point is lawn and garden beauty is in the eye of the beholder. When you do want to remove invasive plants or unwanted pests, consider these options:

HAND WEEDING

When there are a few unwanted weeds, pulling them by hand is an option. A number of tools exist to make the job easier when there are more than a few unwanted plants. Over seeding and proper fertilization will help reduce weed problems.



USE GARDENING EQUIPMENT

The use of gardening equipment can be helpful in reducing the number of visible weeds, however it is important to get to the weed root or weeds will eventually grow back. Ask your retailer for advice on lawn and garden tools to help with the task. Be mindful that deep cultivation in your garden (especially around rose plants) can damage feeder roots.



INSECT CONTROL

Certain insects can actually help to eliminate the population of damaging insects to your lawn or garden. Insects like the ladybird beetle, praying mantis, trichogramma wasp, and lacewing can help keep the population of aphids and certain other pests under control.

Birds can be a menace to the vegetable garden or fruit orchard, but they are a delightful asset to the rose garden. Insect eating species include bluebirds, chickadees, mockingbirds, orioles, robins, wrens, and warblers. Welcome them by hanging bird feeders, especially near roses.



Choosing the Right Product for the Right Problem

DIAGNOSE THE PROBLEM

- Correctly identify the pest.
- Locate damaged / diseased areas in and around your home. (discoloured, stunted, or distorted plant growth are evidence of pests.)
- Assess the level of damage.
- Consider your range of options.



SELECT YOUR TREATMENT

- Look for a control product that lists your pest or describes your problem on the label.
- Discuss with a qualified retail associate to confirm this is the best solution to your problem.
- Purchase only the amount required for the job at hand.



IMPORTANT

- Always read and follow package directions before applying products.
- Use common sense and responsible use practices when using and storing any chemical based product – never apply in the presence of children or pets and be sure to store products safely out of their reach at all times.
- If your neighbours are having similar problems with the same type of pest(s) consider sharing leftover product to reduce waste and disposal.

A STRICTLY REGULATED SYSTEM FOR PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency, under the auspices of Health Canada, regulates all pest control products in Canada. Pesticides are evaluated for potential effects on human health and the environment. After the review is completed those products meeting the strict guidelines are registered for sale in Canada. As stated by the PMRA, “only products that pose no unacceptable risks to health or the environment of Canadians will be accepted for registration in Canada.”

When all other options have been considered and you have determined that it is necessary to use a pest control product, take care to follow label directions. Using only those pesticide products evaluated and registered by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency will ensure you and your family can enjoy the environment in and around your home securely.



IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION

- Gain valuable information by educating yourself by accessing manufacturer Web sites or by contacting call centre numbers. This information is found on most product labels.
- Ask your retailer for advice. Request any pamphlets or brochures they may have available for you to take home.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

S.C. JOHNSON & SON, LIMITED

Visit our Web site at www.bugfreeliving.com or call toll-free 1-800-558-5566

NU-GRO CORPORATION

Visit our Web site at www.nu-gro.com or call toll-free 1-800-268-2806

SCOTTS CANADA LTD.

Visit our Web site at www.greencrosscanada.com or call toll-free 1-800-668-5669

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