

Choose
**INTEGRATED PEST
MANAGEMENT (IPM)**
For Power Over Pests

State of Connecticut
Department of Environmental Protection
Pesticides Management Program
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Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., Commissioner

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SEND PESTS PACKING!



**AAAAAH!
EEEEK!
YUCK!**

WHEN RATS, MICE,
TERMITES, COCKROACHES, AND
ANTS INVADE YOUR HOME,
THEY BRING FILTH, DISEASE OR
DESTRUCTION. BUT REACHING FOR
THE SPRAY OR POISON MAY NOT BE
THE BEST WAY TO GET RID OF THEM.
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)
IS A COMMON-SENSE APPROACH TO
CONTROLLING UNWANTED PESTS—
AND IT'S GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
AND YOUR HEALTH, TOO.

THIS WAY OUT OF TOWN



IPM: THE SMART WAY TO CONTROL PESTS

FIVE STEPS TO PEST PREVENTION

Like us, rodents and bugs need food, water, and a comfortable place to live. By controlling their access to these, IPM helps prevent and eliminate these pesky critters. Here are pest management techniques you can use to help control and eliminate pests in your home.

LOOK FOR SIGNS OF PESTS

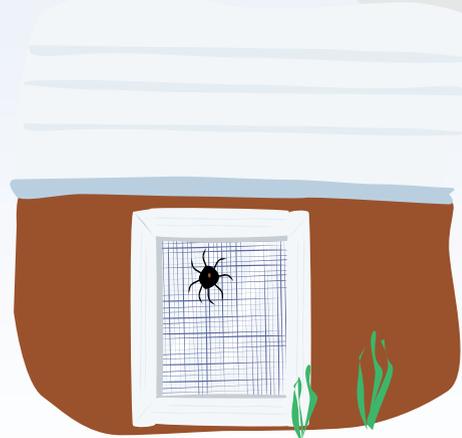
- Look for places where pests can enter your home.
- Check for holes in siding, cracks in foundations, open drains or wiring leads.
- Look for rodent burrows, chew marks and droppings.
- Search for piles of fine sawdust-like chewings from carpenter ants.

ELIMINATE PLACES WHERE THEY CAN ENTER

- Caulk cracks.
- Cover vents.
- Seal off pipe conduits.
- Install or repair screens and air doors.
- Replace weather stripping.
- Trim branches that overhang or contact the roof of the building.
- Keep vegetation, shrubs, and wood mulch one foot from the building.
- Rake up leaves and debris from around the foundation to eliminate places where rodents hide.
- Move stacks of firewood away from the building.
- Keep doors closed.
- Keep indoor areas dry.
- Fix leaky faucets and pipes.

KEEP YOUR HOME CLEAN INSIDE AND OUT

- Eliminate sources of food and water.
- Store containers held for recycling in tightly covered trash cans or closed trash bags.
- Clean up food crumbs and spills.
- Store pet or bird food in sealed containers.
- Pick up pet food dishes after pets are finished eating.
- Seal garbage bins tightly.
- Don't leave leftovers out for wild animals.
- Reduce general clutter in and around the house.
- Remove indoor waste daily.
- Vacuum frequently and thoroughly, making sure to dispose of the vacuum bag if you have picked up unwanted guests.



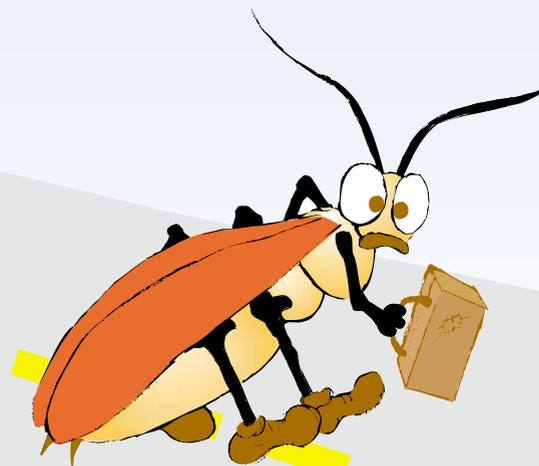
TRAPS AND LURES

- Set and regularly check rodent traps.
- Use biological traps such as pheromones and chemical lures which attract and capture insects.



USE PESTICIDES IF NECESSARY

- Use pesticides carefully.
- Call a registered pest control company for help controlling the most stubborn pests.
- Ask your pest control company for an IPM program.



IF YOU NEED PROFESSIONAL HELP

Some pests may be more than you can handle on your own. For example, termites, carpenter ants, roaches or rats can quickly get out of hand and be very hard to get rid of.

If you need professional help, look for pest control companies that practice IPM. A good contractor will—

- Thoroughly inspect your home.
- Identify problem areas, structural features, or practices that may contribute to the pest problem.
- Suggest steps that you should take to eliminate conditions that pests need for survival.
- Develop a pest control plan and timetable for eliminating the pests.
- Use baits, traps, and monitoring devices.
- Use pesticides if necessary, choosing the least toxic products first.
- Monitor these pest control methods on a regular basis.
- Provide reports on pest activities in your home.
- Let you know when the pests are gone.

It's easier to prevent pesky critters from living in your home than to get rid of them. So start your own IPM program today to keep them out. And call a registered pest control company when you need to send pests packing.

