

NAME OF SERVICE: Carpenter Ant Treatment Protocol

ATTRIBUTES: Check for attributes on the services for more treatment specifications.

TO INCLUDE: The treatment of carpenter ants in the interior of buildings and around the exterior of buildings, if activity exists in both locations.

COVERED PEST: Carpenter Ants

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Workers range in size from ¼ to ½ inches in length, some have a dull red head and thorax with a black abdomen, others are solid light brown in color or solid black in color
- These ants tend to nest in old stumps/dead parts of trees, in wooden fences or in firewood
- Prefer to colonize in moist, decaying wood, wood with dry rot or old termite galleries
- Galleries follow the grain of the wood and around the annual rings and these ants keep their galleries clean and smooth. The ants do not feed on the wood so piles of sawdust-like wood piles (frass) will be found underneath exit holes. These wood shaving piles accumulate as the nests are excavated and they usually contain parts of dead insects
- Foraging worker ants leave the nest and seek sources of sweets and other foods such as decaying fruits, insects, and honeydew from landscape pests
- Can use low hanging tree branches and other plant material as bridges to enter structures

TREATMENT INCLUDES:

- Interior:** Finding and treating their colonies in wall voids and within wood will usually control these ants indoors. If indoor activity is present:
- Treat with a liquid residual where activity is found.
 - Dust in any cracks and crevices to cabinets, kick plates under cabinets, plumbing sites in wall voids; may have to drill holes to treat in void areas.
- Exterior:** Following the ant trails is helpful to identify nesting sites, but in the heat of the summer they only tend to trail at night. If outdoor activity is present:
- Treat the complete exterior perimeter with a liquid residual.
 - An application of liquid residual can be made to trunks/base of plants not to exceed overhead, if ants are found trailing.
 - Use your B&G on coarse flat fan to treat around crack and crevices where the ants could enter the structure. Applications could be made around doors, windows, vents, pipes, wires entering the structure, and in cracks or holes in the foundation.
 - Dust any openings on the structure such as weep holes, around plumbing and electrical lines, and A/C lines going into the structure.

SPECIAL NOTES/ATTRIBUTES:

Primary defense against carpenter ants is to avoid moisture-damaged wood, so soft or decaying wood should be replaced. Inspection is key to find moisture damaged wood on roofs, around window frames/door frames, around clogged, damaged or improperly aligned gutters, or wood to soil contact. Once detected, all moisture damaged wood should be removed and replaced. Trees and shrubs should be trimmed so the branches do not contact the structure; firewood should be stored away from the structure.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

	<u>ABC</u>	<u>CHEMFREE</u>
Interior:	Alpine WSG	Alpine WSG
	D-fense Dust	Alpine Dust
Exterior:		
	Talstar P	Alpine WSG
	D-fense Dust	Alpine Dust