

Our Insect Enemies

Ants And Cockroaches Crawl To The Top Of The “Most Active Household Pests” List

(NAPSA)—Even as bedbug activity increases across the nation, ants and cockroaches are still the most active warm-weather pests.

“Many homeowners consider ants and cockroaches nuisance pests, but they can also cause health issues or damage buildings,” said Ron Harrison, Ph.D., technical director for Orkin, Inc.



Certain species of ants, best identified by a professional, can pose serious threats to your health and home.

“Because associated risks vary by species, correct identification is crucial to controlling these pests.”

Approximately 50 ant species infest U.S. homes, and some can contaminate food, sting or cause structural damage. Pharaoh ants can transmit disease organisms, and red imported fire ants sting anything they perceive to be threatening, causing painful pustules and even death. Carpenter ants excavate wood within the walls, causing severe damage and leaving trails of sawdust.

German, American and Oriental cockroaches, all active during warmer months, can spread disease-causing germs, contaminate food and cause allergies.

To prevent infestations, Harrison recommends homeowners:

- Clean up spilled food and drinks, and remove clutter.
- Seal any entry points around windows and doorways.

For more information on ants or cockroaches, visit www.orkin.com/learningcenter.