

U.P.M. Newsletter

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, JUNE 2002

United Pest Management—Prompt professional service

Ants Acting Up?

Special points of interest:

- *Fire Ants have spread some 275 million acres causing millions in damage*
- *Lady bugs are protected as well as useful*
- *Are you concerned about Pesticide Use in your child's school?*
- *Who is applying pesticides in and around your home?*
- *New services available*

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Ants are very active at this time of year, you can find them trailing across floors, corners, and even in electrical outlets. They can invade your home from any and every direction. They are among the most successful of insects. Like Termites, they are social insects and live in colonies. Ant colonies build structures called nests, many prefer to nest in the ground while some nest in wood.

Four of the most common ants are: Carpenter, Argentine, Pavement, and Fire. Successful management often requires exact identification of the species involved due to wide variations in feeding and other habits of different ant species. Some ants, for example, can digest granulated baits, while others can't. Proper procedures followed in ant control may depend greatly on the species of ant, nature of infestation and location of the nest. A typical ant colony can contain thousands of members. So, seeing just a few, can mean there are many more.

You've told us you wanted it and here it is:

United Pest Management announces a new service

"YARD SPRAYING for ANTS" which can be purchased for an additional fee. Pricing is dependent on the size of the area to be covered and type of infestation.

Call U.P.M. at 919-557-0956 to setup your appointment.



Ants live in colonies

consisting of workers,



soldiers and reproductives.



Recommended tips for homeowners from Chris

Ants are attracted to water, they forage for food and look for harborage so

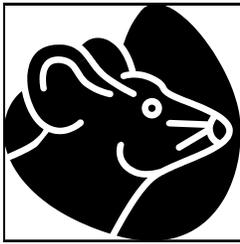
- Make sure leaky facets are fixed
- Down spouts send water away from home
- Leaky pipes & plumbing should be fixed
- Seal cracks & holes on the outside of your home
- Keep sugar in Tupperware tightly sealed

Termite Tips: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure:

- Eliminate all wood to ground contact
- Keep fire wood away from house
- Trim bushes/shrubs up & away
- Cut trees away from house
- Have your home inspected annually

Stay Away from Rodents if you are pregnant

If you're pregnant, be advised that you should avoid contact with all rodents, including those that are pets, according to a study in August 1, 2001 issue of *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. Researchers from the University of Arizona



said that when women come in contact with rodents carrying a disease called Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis Virus (LCMV), damage to developing fetus may

occur. "When a healthy adult or pregnant woman contracts LCMV, it may be completely without symptoms or it may manifest as a mild flu," says Leslie Barton, M.D., professor of pediatrics and pediatric infectious disease specialist at the University. "The real risk with this infection is in the transmission to the unborn baby."

Mice and hamsters are the primary source of LCMV infections. Humans acquire this virus by direct contact with infected rodents or by inhaling the virus once it becomes airborne. If you have a pet hamster, have someone

else take care of it while you are pregnant. Try to avoid the possibility of the virus becoming airborne.

Brief tips:

Anyone cleaning up after mice or droppings should wear latex or vinyl gloves. Thoroughly wet the area to be cleaned first. A spray bottle filled with water is effective for wetting the area. This helps prevent airborne bacteria spreading. If possible use dish detergent or disinfectant to clean area. Paper towels make disposal easy.

Fire Ant Spreading

**"WHEN
DISTURBED
THEY SWARM
OUT OF NESTS
AND STING
REPEATEDLY"**

Fire Ants are closer then we think.

There are two main types of imported fire ants: red and black. The black type is thought to have

arrived in Mobile, Ala, in dirt that was used as ship's ballast. The red may have arrived around 1920s.

Americans spend millions of dollars a year on chemicals for temporary control.

One fire ant colony can contain between 100,000 and 300,000 work ants and each colony produces several hundred queens every summer.

It's believed fire ants have spread some 275 million acres in the past 80 years, mostly in the Southeast. The aggressive predators crowd out native ants, live in the ground and build mounds above their colonies.

A hybrid form was identified and may have the ability to tolerate colder temperatures possibly having better survival instincts or powers to adapt.

When disturbed they swarm out of nests and sting repeatedly, injecting their victims with venom that causes sores. The stings cause pain and discomfort but can prove fatal to humans who are allergic to their venom.

U.P.M. offers Fire Ant Control as a additional service. This service requires rodding individual mounds.

Did You Know.....

Insects have been around for more than 350 million years. Over 1,000,000 different species have been identified and 100,000 are here in North America.

Spiders can be considered beneficial predators eating a variety of flying insects but can become intolerable when they multiply in and around homes.

Milky Spore is an organic alternative for beetle control in your yard. It can be found in most garden centers and should be applied following manufacturers instructions.

The Oriental Rat Flea probably a native of the Nile Valley during the 14th through 17th centuries carried the Bubonic plague known as The Black Death which killed nearly 1/2 the

European population. The disease dispersed when thatched roofs were replaced by tile, slate or shingle roofs eliminating the rats habitat.

Lady Bugs (Harmonia Lady Beetles) are protected, they eat large numbers of aphids, adelgids, insect eggs, and other soft-bodied insects.

How to Prevent Cockroach Problems

Don't give cockroaches a good place to live:

The fewer places cockroaches can hide, the better.

Caulk, weather-strip, and repair holes around water pipes, baseboards, doors and windows.

Put screens over windows, vents, floor drains, and ducts—they can be cockroach highways and hideaways.

Get rid of old newspapers, paper bags, etc. Throw them away or recycle them frequently.

Keep areas outside of your home clean of trash and leaves. Stack wood-piles away from the house.

Inspect all baskets, bags or boxes of food brought into the house.

Don't feed cockroaches:

Store food in tightly sealed containers or in the refrigerator. Don't leave

food, crumbs, or trash uncovered in your home.

Use a trashcan with a tight-fitting lid. Empty the trash can frequently. Recycle items frequently.

Call U.P.M. whenever you suspect a problem. We can help.



Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Integrated Pest Management is a process that works to achieve long term environmentally sound pest suppression in schools.

IPM prevents pests through exclusion and proper sanitation procedures.

Pesticides are applied on an "as needed" basis only. Applications are done when pests are present.

When treatment is needed IPM uses the least hazardous product for effective control.

IPM targets pesticides in areas that are not accessible to student, faculty and staff.

U.P.M. Applies the theory of IPM in treating the interior of your home.

U.P.M. always provides a full exterior treatment because pests come in from the outside.

Parent's are you concerned about qualified pesticide use in your child's school? Ask if they are involved in an IPM Program perhaps suggest adopting one.

The national school IPM website provides FREE all the tools for any school or government to join the program.

For more information visit their website: www.ifas.ufl.edu/~schoolipm/ or call 1-800-226-1764

PARENT'S ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT PESTICIDE USE IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Consumer Information on Pest Control Licensing

The Pest Control Industry is regulated by the Structural Pest Division. Phases are: P=Household Pest, W=Wood Destroying Organisms and F=Fumigation.

A Registered Technician Identification Card can be issued when 3 steps are completed.

1. Introductory training workbook completed.

2. Just 24 hours of on-the-job training before the technician can mix or apply pesticides without on-site supervision.

3. One-day course of Registered Technician School completed.

Certification requires The Registered Technician School or Training Program be completed, pass Core (general competency) plus examinations in

each phase of certification is desired.

A Licensee must have 2 years documented experience in pest control, qualify as a certified applicator for desired phases and pass an examination in that phase.

At U.P.M. all applications are performed by the Owner who is LICENSED in P & W phases with over 10 years experience.

United Pest Management—Prompt professional service

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Get \$10.00 off next
scheduled service for each
qualified referral.

LOW, LOW RATES

A step above the rest—

We take time to talk with you about your issues because we care.

Give us a call if you see anything—free emergency service is provided to all monthly or quarterly pest control customers. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure even with insects.

With United Pest Management you know a Licensed operator is entering your home on every visit bringing years of identification experience —Leave us a key, if that's more convenient for you.

Quarterly, monthly and spot treatments available.

Services Available:

Complete array of Pest Control Services

- Full exterior perimeter treatment on each visit.
- Interior examination and treatment as needed
- FREE emergency service requests for monthly/quarterly.

New ANT Yard Spray Service available

New Fire Ant Service Available

Automatic Foundation Ventilation System Installation

48 Hour Response to Real Estate Inspections Requests

Moisture Barriers for Crawl Space

Mechanical Alternations available

Full Offering of Termite control using advanced techniques—

- Full Conventional Liquid, Bait or Liquid & Bait
- A variety of Termite treatments to suite your homes needs and budget.

Call for a free inspection today 919-557-0956

Questions & Answers



Question: What exactly is Pest Management?

Answer: Pest Management can be defined as a system integrating preventative and corrective measures to keep pests from causing significant problems.

Question: I'm seeing a couple of ants

here and there should I call or wait till my regularly scheduled visit?

Answer: Call we'll take care of it before it turns into a real problem. Sometimes the couple of ants you see may be scouts looking for viable food, harborage or water sources.

Questions: Too Many Lady Bugs?

Answer: Because Beetles arrive over a period of days to a week and breed spray applications can be ineffective

and a health hazard. The best way to control them from entering your home is by using tight-fitting screens, caulking and sealing cracks, holes or openings on the outside of your home. If they get into your home, vacuum them up and redeposit them outside. Lady bugs are protected.

Question: How do you avoid ticks on your pets?

Answer: Don't let them wear a watch.

United Pest Management are members of the Angier and Fuquay-Varina Chamber of Commerce.

We want your Feedback: Call 919-557-0956 or email UnitedPestMgmtPA@aol.com with any questions or comments.