

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Don't Let Insects Drive You Buggy

(NAPSA)—Controlling insects can often be easier than many homeowners realize. The key is knowing how to inspect for signs of trouble and what steps to take if there is a threat to your home. Many find that the onset of warmer weather can be an excellent time to begin their annual inspection—both indoors and out.

“Prevention is the best solution for warding off unwanted pests,” said Larry Coltharp, director of insect control research and development with Black Flag. “Spray early in the spring, reinforce protection in the summer during peak insect season, and seal homes in the fall to keep bugs from seeking shelter.”

Here are some tips on what to look for and how to keep pests under control:

- Check walls for cracks and crevices where spiders and ants can enter.

- In the kitchen, check for open containers or water leaks under the sink and other sources of food and water. It's also a good idea to occasionally check your paper grocery bags to make sure they don't contain any uninvited guests.

- In addition to attracting mold and mildew, cardboard storage containers can make an attractive shelter for many insects such as roaches, silverfish and scorpions. Some insects will even feed on cardboard. Check yours regularly.

- Using caulk, expanding foam or steel wool, seal up spaces around pipes and any place where electrical wiring enters the home.

- In the house, keep trash in a closed container until it goes outside.

- When it comes to choosing an insecticide, one size rarely fits all. Often, insecticides are developed



When choosing an insecticide, look for one that can be equally effective against a variety of insects.

to address a specific pest or type of insect. One exception may be a powerful household pest control formula that offers home protection against more than 40 different types of insects.

According to Coltharp, the advanced Home Insect Control system offers homeowners an effective and affordable solution for pest control. Said Coltharp, “Black Flag Home Insect Control features our exclusive pump spray that delivers up to 10 minutes of continuous spraying after just a few pumps. It's unique formulation characteristics will keep the insecticide particles on the surface of treated areas to give better insect control. Homeowners can cover more area in less time and with less effort.”

For maximum protection, Coltharp recommends applying the spray around the perimeter of the house, indoors and out. In addition, he believes do-it-yourselfers will save more than \$100—the average cost of using a pest control service for treatment.

To learn more, visit the website at www.blackflag.com.