

CLUSTER FLIES

What you need to know

Cluster flies are common home invaders in the city outskirts, the country and farming areas due to the fact that the eggs are laid and the larvae develop inside of earthworms. While most homeowners will notice them in the late winter and spring buzzing and dying around the windows, the best time for treatment is in the fall before they find their way into your home.

What we do

We recommend fall treatments to provide your home with the protection it needs while the flies are looking for a place to overwinter. We treat the cracks, crevices, doorways and window frames around your home.

What you can do

Check the exterior of your home for entry points that you can control like unnecessary cracks and holes. Sealing cracks inside the home, like window frames, can help contain those flies that are already inside to the wall voids and attic spaces.

Ensure your window screens are properly in place and don't have holes.

Vacuum the flies that are around the windows.

FRUIT FLIES

What you need to know

Fruit flies are small (1/8") yellowish brown to brown flies. A female can lay up to 500 eggs and the eggs take about 30 hours to hatch and roughly another week to become an adult that can lay more eggs.

What you can do

Finding the source of the problem is the quickest way to get rid of the activity. Fermenting fruit and vegetables are the most common source of fruit flies, but don't forget about things like a dirty garbage can or recycling bin. Aerosols can be used to knock down the adults but it is a short-lived solution unless the source of the problem is found.

Maintaining fruit flies activity in your home can be done without the use of chemicals. Take a small container or dish and fill it 1/2 way with a flavored vinegar such as apple cider vinegar or red wine vinegar. Cover the container with plastic wrap, use elastic to hold the plastic down if needed, and poke some small holes in the plastic. The fruit flies will be attracted to the vinegar, find the holes, but will not be able to escape.

DRAIN FLIES

What you need to know

Drain flies, or moth flies, are small flies, not larger than 1/4", that look like small moths. They may be yellowish, greyish, or brownish in color. Adults will live up to 2 weeks, and it takes almost a month to develop from egg to adult.

Drain flies are not strong fliers so they will often be seen resting on a wall or window sill.

What you can do

Drain flies are always a sanitation problem. Drains should be cleaned with a brush and drain cleaning product then flushed with hot water. Adults can be knocked down with an aerosol.

Drains that are not used for long periods of time may cause problems when the traps dry out. This can be prevented by adding a bit of vegetable or mineral oil to the water to prevent evaporation.