



MILLETTE

PEST CONTROL *We Protect What Matters Most*

Stink Bugs and your Home

We have been receiving Questions about stink bugs and their control. We do offer a reduction only application as part of our Home protection plan at the correct times of year on the exterior. But it only helps to reduce the amount of stink bugs that will gain entry and annoy you it will not STOP them. If you are seeing high numbers of these in your home, the best way for further reduction efforts are the control means listed below. As well as ideas on how to handle those that are in your home.

Stink bug Info:

The Brown marmorated stink bug is an invasive bug that is a serious pest of fruit, vegetable, and other crops. It also becomes a nuisance pest of homes as it is attracted to the outside of houses on warm fall days in search of protected, overwintering sites and can enter houses in large numbers.

The stink bug will not reproduce inside structures or cause damages. If many of them are crushed or sucked into a vacuum cleaner, their smell can sometimes be quite apparent.

Management in homes Before bugs enter a building

Mechanical exclusion is the best method to keep stink bugs from entering homes and buildings. Cracks around windows, doors, siding, utility pipes, behind chimneys, and underneath the wood fascia and other openings should be sealed with good quality silicone or silicone-latex caulk. Damaged screens on doors and windows should be repaired or replaced. Window Air condition units also allow access. Exterior applications of insecticides can offer some relief and reduction from infestations when the task of completely sealing the exterior is difficult or impossible. Applications should be applied by a licensed pest control operator in the spring and fall just prior to bug congregation

After stink bugs have entered the structure

If numerous bugs are entering the living areas of the home, attempt to locate the openings where the insects gain access. Typically, stink bugs will emerge from cracks under or behind baseboards, around window and door trim, and around exhaust fans or lights in ceilings. Seal these openings with caulk or other suitable materials to prevent the insects from crawling out. Both live and dead stink bugs can be removed from interior areas with the aid of a vacuum cleaner - however, the vacuum may acquire the smell of stink bugs for a period. of time. Or you can pick them up with a tissue and release them outside or flush them down the toilet. It is not advisable to use an insecticide inside after the insects have gained access to the wall voids or attic areas.

Applications That Do Not Help

Although insecticidal dust treatments to these voids may kill hundreds of bugs, there is the possibility that carpet beetles will feed on the dead stink bugs and subsequently attack woolens, stored dry goods or other natural products in the home. Although aerosol-type pyrethrum foggers will kill stink bugs that have amassed on ceilings and walls in living areas, it will not prevent more of the insects from emerging shortly after the room is aerated. For this reason, use of these materials is not considered a good solution to long-term management of the problem. Spray insecticides, directed into cracks and crevice, will not prevent the bugs from emerging and is not a viable or recommended treatment.