

Pest Control Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

Assessment

- Is there evidence of damage and debris caused by insects?
- Are the doors or other openings to the outside tight fitting?
- Are there gaps around windows and/ or doors?
- Are there water sources near the building?
- Is there waste disposal near the building?
- Is there vegetation or mulch placed against or near the building?
- Is there nonessential lighting near the building?
- Is there evidence of damage and debris caused by insects within the building?
- Are there cracks or holes in or around the walls, doors or windows?
- Is there food waste in undesignated areas?
- Do all food containers have lids?
- Are there moisture leaks or condensation around plumbing, windows, or climate control equipment?
- Are garbage containers clean and properly covered?

Do's (Rodents)

- Sweep up all food debris in the food preparation and storage areas.
- Ensure all food such as flour, sugar and legumes are covered and stored in sealed containers.
- Seal gaps and holes in walls, floors, ceilings and around pipes and cables.
- Remove accumulated boxes or redundant equipment.
- Seal the gap under external doors.
- Cover and seal rubbish bins tightly.
- Purchase and use only poisons and chemicals approved for use in food establishments.
- Lay baits such as pellets or blocks, or traps where droppings are sited and check them regularly.
- Carry out a monthly check of the food premises to check for any signs of rodent activity.

Signs of Infestation (Rodents)

- Rodent droppings on the floor and other surfaces especially where food is stored.
- Greasy rub marks on vertical surfaces.
- Squeaking, gnawing or movement sounds in walls, cupboards, ceilings.
- Nests made from rags, paper, cardboard, straw and other materials.
- Gnawing damage to materials including wood, soft metals, soap, cables, conduits and food containers.

Do's (Cockroach)

- Before treating any area take a flashlight and check for nesting sites.
- Vacuum regularly.
- Seal any holes, cracks or crevices to eliminate hiding places for the cockroaches.
- Reduce potential harbourage by removing clutter.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect all equipment and surfaces.
- Clean away any dead cockroaches.
- Baits should be placed around the premises where cockroach activity or droppings are found.

- Replace the baits as required.
- If necessary, employ a pest control operator to inspect and treat the premises.
- Carry out a monthly check of the food premises to check for any signs of cockroach activity.
- Signs of Infestation (Cockroach)
 - Smell.
 - Small spindle shaped droppings.
 - Dead cockroach bodies.