

Occasional Invaders - Typical First Strikes by Housekeeping & Maintenance

1. **Doorsweeps - If you can slide a piece of paper under the door and especially if you can see light under the door, pests can enter.** Practice proper sanitation and properly install doorsweeps. Keep the area as dry as possible. Trim all branches that touch or overhang the building and caulk all visible cracks, crevices and other openings. Maintain routine and thorough sanitation and proper food and garbage storage. **Routinely clean and spray with diluted Safe Solutions Enzyme Cleaner with Peppermint and/or borax or Not Nice to Bugs®.**
2. Find the source of the infestation and discard it or treat it with food-grade DE and/or temperature. Then vacuum up all visible pests inside and spray with diluted (1 oz. per 1 qt. water) Safe Solutions Enzyme Cleaner with Peppermint inside or outside.
3. Steam clean and/or mop the floors with 1 - 1½ c. borax per 1 gal. hot water.
4. Lightly sprinkle food-grade DE, talcum or medicated body powder, baking soda, a little lime, table salt or ground calcium chloride (Comet® or finely ground Tums®) inside and outside or draw a barrier line of defense with Safe Solutions, Inc. Chalk De-Fence.
5. Be sure to eliminate all moisture and plumbing problems, and reservoirs (hiding/breeding areas).
6. Change the exterior lighting to yellow bug lights or sodium vapor lighting.
7. Install and properly maintain vents, air conditioners, dehumidifiers and/or fans.
8. Closely mow grass and eliminate leaf litter, ground cover, general litter, and trim all overhanging or touching branches.
9. Virtually any caterpillar (pest) problem can be resolved with diluted (Lemon Joy®) dish detergent or diluted Safe Solutions Enzyme Cleaner with Peppermint. **Be sure you are not burning the infested plants with your diluted or ready-to-use sprays.**
10. Slugs and snails are attracted to dry cat food, so stick some next to and under a board to attract them. Then pick up the board occasionally and destroy the pests. Make a small "wasp" trap out of a small plastic bottle. Cut the top part off where the bottle begins to curve, invert it into the bottle like a funnel, duct tape the edges, add a little beer and bury it so the edge of the adapted bottle is at ground level.
11. Camphor and menthol vapors will often repel insects, e.g., lady beetles and mites.
12. Safe Solutions, Inc. food-grade DE will repel and/or control most insects, mites and/or arachnids.
13. Properly install double-side carpet tape or duct tape (sticky-side up) wherever you see pests crawling.
14. **If you still have pests read the rest of the chapter and/or call Get Set, Inc. @ 1-616-677-1261.**

*Safe Solutions products may be purchased online at:

<http://www.safesolutionsinc.com>

or by telephone at:

1-888-443-8738.

