



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY ARKADIA – ECO PEST CONTROL September 2015 - Issue #6

Cool Weather Drives Mice Indoors

Much like in a children's story book, mice head indoors as the weather turns cool.

In storybooks, the creatures are endearing. In real life, mice are a menace that can cause allergies, contaminate food and water, and spread diseases through bite wounds.

They can get into your house easily through a ¼-inch gap or opening, and they're plentiful. The typical female mouse can give birth when she is two months old and can reproduce six to 10 times a year.

Mice droppings warn you have an unwelcome visitor. It's time to call an exterminator.

At Arkadia - Eco Pest Control in NJ, our licensed technicians will conduct a thorough inspection on the outside of your home to identify likely entry points. Then, we tightly seal up these spaces inside and out.

One Arkadia differentiator: We do not place rodent poison inside your house when performing mice control in NJ.

Here are some tips to prevent mice from entering in the first place:

Check it out. Look for ¼-inch gaps, cracks or holes around your house, pipe voids, and space around utility wires and vents. Seal them.

Snug it up. Screens, windows, and doors must fit tightly. Install a door sweep with at least a 1/4-inch space underneath an outside door—even your garage door, especially if your garage is attached to the house.

Mouse-proof food storage. Store food in sealed Tupperware-like containers. This will prevent gnawing and contamination.

Clean up. Never leave food out at night—including food and water for pets. Mice like to settle in close to food and water for their 15 to 20 meals a day. If they sniff out a supply, they'll cozy up and stay long-term.

For Fall Bathroom Remodeling, Go Green

Going green in the bathroom will make your home healthier, more energy efficient and afford easier maintenance and fewer repairs.

Installing and maintaining water-saving bathroom fixtures is vital. Dual-flush toilets use less water than older models. Two different flushes allow you to use only the water you need.

The flow rate of a typical showerhead is 2.5 gallons per minute; a low-flow head of 1.5 to 2 gallons per minute offers adequate cleansing power and significantly less water usage.

Many low-flow showerheads are WaterSense- labeled—meaning they have been independently certified for efficiency and performance—and come in diverse styles and prices. Some utilities offer rebates to help offset the cost. Just one showerhead replacement, and the EPA estimates the average family can save 2,900 gallons of water, the amount of electricity needed to power their home for 13 days, and more than \$70 in energy and water costs every year.

For easy-on-the-back washing, sink height should be at least 36 inches. You can stand up straight when washing. Consider a kitchen-type faucet with sprayer to rinse the sink, even wash your hair. Hospital-plumbing brass sinks with big paddle handles allow no-touch activation. Use recycled and eco-materials like natural ceramic or non-toxic cement for your hardware and sink basin.

Adequate bathroom ventilation removes the excess humidity that makes bathroom floors slippery, and causes mildew and mold.

Install vents to exhaust air to the outside--not simply to the space between ceiling joists. Locate the fan between the toilet and tub/shower.

Till next time.

Barbara Mannino
Eco Advocate Writer/Editor
barbara.mannino@verizon.net

Arkadia - Eco Pest Control
"Tough on Pests. Gentle on the Environment."