Termite Control in the Home



Wood-destroying insects and other organisms can cause serious problems in the wooden structural components of a house. They may go undetected for a long time, but there are many tell-tale signs that indicate their presence.

SIGNS OF INFESTATION

The first sign of infestation is usually swarming termites on windows or near indoor light. Other signs include detached termite wings on window sills or in cobwebs, and shelter tubes made from soil, wood, and debris. Any point where wood touches soil is a potential entry point for termites. When you tap on wood, does it sound dull or hollow? Wood damage usually means you have an infestation.

INSPECTION

Hire an InterNACHI® inspector for a WDO Inspection. Your inspector will check thoroughly for infestation, damage, and conditions that attract termites. Your inspector will use tools like a flashlight, ice pick, ladder, and protective gear. Outdoors, you can check your home's foundation, porch, window frames, and utility entry points for shelter tubes. Check areas where earth meets wood, like fences and trellises. Inside, look at your doors, windows, baseboards, and flooring for signs of infestation or water damage. Pay attention to plumbing and utility entry points, as well as the attic for shelter tubes and damage.



Subterranean termites are the most destructive insects. Their presence is hard to notice, and their damage is usually found before they are. Prevent an infestation before it occurs so that you can avoid having to hire a professional pest-control service.



If you see the following signs in your house, you might have termites:

- Sawdust-like droppings
- Dirt or mud-like tubes or trails on the structure
- Damaged wood members (like window sills)
- Swarming winged insects within the structure, especially in the spring or fall



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Concerned about wood-destroying organisms and hidden damage in your home? Contact your InterNACHI® Certified Professional Inspector® today!