

# Home Pest-Proofing Tips

June is National Home Ownership Month and to celebrate Hughes Exterminators has put together some simple tips you can take to help protect your home and family from pests.



## Attic

Seal all cracks, crevices and holes. Inspect insulation for adequate coverage and for signs of rodent droppings or harborage sites.

## Gutters

Keep gutters and downspouts clean, especially in the fall after the majority of the leaves have fallen.

## Caulking

Make sure any gaps that appear around window frames are properly sealed.

## Trees

Cut back tree branches and plants away from the home so they do not provide a bridge for insects to reach your home.

## Plumbing

Repair any leaky pipes and seal cracks, holes and crevices in hidden areas under sinks.

## Carpet

Vacuum frequently

## Garbage

Avoid letting trash or recycling pile up. Keep bins sealed both indoors and outdoors.

## Water Run-Off

Make sure water is channeled away from the foundation.

## Pet Food

Store pet foods in sealed containers. Limit the time the food is out.

## Kitchen

Make sure all food is securely stored and sealed. Wipe counters frequently to remove any food debris.

## Standing Water

Eliminate sources of standing water, since it can provide a breeding ground for insects.

## Snacks

If food is carried to other rooms, remove dishes as soon as possible after eating.

## Foundation Exterior

Seal cracks, crevices and gaps in the foundation around the entire perimeter of your home, especially where wires and pipes enter the structure.

## Firewood

Stack wood at least ten feet away from the house to eliminate harborage for rodents, snakes, spiders and centipedes.

## Crawlspace

Screen all vents to prevent insect and wildlife entry. Remove all cellulose debris, as it can harbor insects and is a food source for termites.

## Wood to Earth Contact

All wood in contact with soil, such as fences and deck posts, is an entry point for pests and termites.