

Pest Control Tips

- **Keep your home tidy** – rats, mice and cockroaches love clutter, so clear up to make sure that pests have nowhere to hide and breed. Regular dusting and vacuuming is very important to get rid of dust mites who live in carpets and soft furnishings.
- **Block up holes and gaps** – maintain the exterior of your home; make sure there are no holes or cracks around pipes which pests can squeeze in through. Consider covering vents with wire meshing.
- **Don't leave food out** – make sure food is sealed or put away properly.
- **Seal rubbish** – storing rubbish in suitable containers is essential.
- **Ventilate your home** – although homes should be properly insulated, they also need to be well ventilated to prevent damp and stop mites and fleas from multiplying.
- **Trim branches and trees away from the home** – insects and animals can get into your home via overhanging trees or bushes which come into contact with the exterior walls.
- **Use safe bird feeders** – simply throwing bread crusts or food on your lawn for birds can attract foxes, rodents and other pests, so use properly designed bird feeders.
- **Fix leaky plumbing** – damp can encourage some pests like silverfish which are normally found in kitchens, bathrooms and cellars.
- **Remove pet food and water at night** – many nocturnal pests like rodents are attracted by a regular supply of food and water, so make sure that you remove any pet food or water before you go to bed.
- **Keep your roof in good repair** – broken, rotting or missing roof tiles can make your loft easy access for some pests like squirrels, so maintain your roof properly all year round.