

Protect your home from pests

Your home is likely your largest and most valuable asset, but even the smallest of pests can threaten your property and jeopardize the health of your family.

According to the experts at Orkin/PCO Services, pests can enter your home in both the warmer and cooler months. Rodents are likely to come indoors during the fall and winter—causing structural damage by chewing through plaster, wood and electrical wiring. Warmer weather pests, including ants, cockroaches and flies, can transmit disease-causing bacteria including salmonella and E. coli.

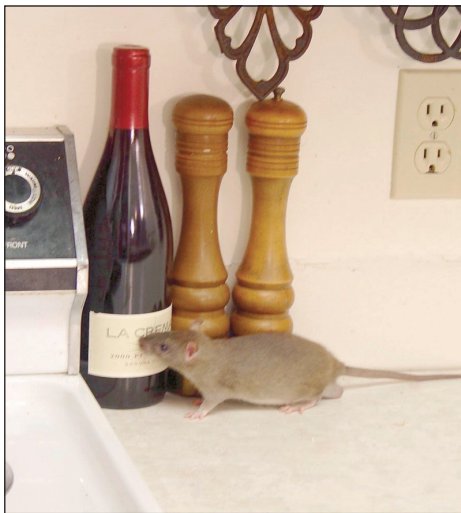
“No matter the season, pests always look for food, water and shelter,” said Bill Melville, quality assurance manager for Orkin/PCO Services. “The optimal temperatures in your home, along with readily available food and water, put the welcome mat out for pests.”

Fortunately there are proactive steps homeowners can take to prevent pests.

First, call a pest management professional to inspect your home inside and out. A licensed professional will identify existing pest problems and alert you to conditions that are conducive to a pest infestation. Make sure the company you call guarantees their work.

Other pest prevention tips from Orkin/PCO Services include:

- Tightly seal trash cans. Pests aren't picky about meals, and the odours from trash can invite pests toward the home—increasing the likelihood they'll make their way inside.
- Install door sweeps and weather



stripping to prevent pests from coming in through gaps around doors and windows.

- Caulk any holes, cracks and gaps around your home with weather-resistant sealant.

- Don't think of spring as the only season for cleaning, but keep the house free of debris the whole year through.

- Pests need only a small amount of food to survive, so wipe counters and floors free of crumbs.

In addition to preventing pests with sanitation and home repairs, it's a good idea to schedule regular visits with a professional. He or she will help ensure you're ready for the pests each season brings. More information is available online at www.orkincanada.com.

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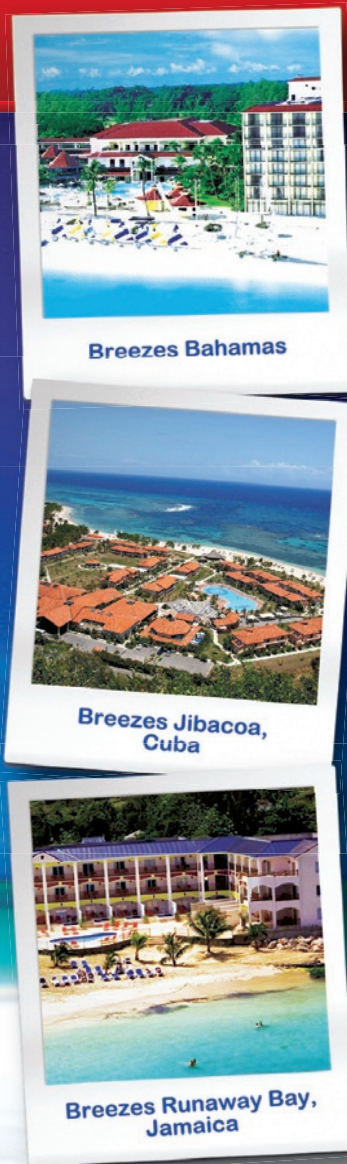
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