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# THE CRAWLING REPORT

#### McNeelyPest.com

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### SEASONAL FEATURED SERVICE Termites....The Gluttons of the Insect World!

Termites can be the most costly and destructive pests to the structures that we inhabit. In the United States alone, they cause billions of dollars in damage every year. The climate of the South, with the warm temperatures and high humidity levels, provide the ideal environment for termites to thrive. One of the most important things you can do to help prevent termite infestations and damage is to educate yourself about termites.

Termites are social insects, which means they live together in colonies and every individual has a role that it performs to contribute to the success of the colony and its survival. Termites main food source is a compound called cellulose, which is a primary component of plant cells. Cellulose can be found in items like wood and paper. The most common termite found in the South is the subterranean termite and as the name implies, they live underground in the soil. Many people will never see termites before they reach a structure. However, in the early spring some may see what are referred to as "swarmers". These are winged reproductive termites that emerge out to mate and then establish new colonies. Once they find an area that they feel is suitable they will drop their wings. The wings are one sign that most pest control professionals observe and use to determine the potential presence of termites. One important fact to remember is just because termites feel they have found a suitable site, it does not mean an infestation will establish. If the colony is successful in establishing a nesting site, the queen, who is the primary egg producer can lay a couple thousand eggs per day. During the time it can take the colony to reach maturity, they can cause lots of structural damage, eating wood that makes up our homes.

One important factor for termites to be successful is they absolutely need moisture! They are soft bodied insects and are very vulnerable to drying out and dying. This is why it is crucial to





### **FUN FACTS**

Termites can't digest the wood they feed on. They have bacteria in their stomachs that help break the wood down.

Mature termite colonies can contain over 2 million members.

There are over 2,700 species of termites that exist around the world.

If you weighed all the termites on Earth, they would weigh more than if you weighed all the humans on Earth.

Termites never stop eating! They eat all day, every day.

reduce the moisture levels around your home. If wood in a crawlspace has suitable levels of water within it, termites will build mud tubes from the soil to the structure. These are highways for them to travel from where they are nesting in the ground to their food. People sometimes will see these in their crawl spaces or on the exterior of their homes.

Some non-chemical preventative measures you can take to reduce the possibility of termites invading your home are: reducing the amount of moisture in areas like crawl spaces by enclosing them; limiting the amount of wood around the perimeter of your home, such as rotten tree stumps and keeping wood piles away from the house. If there are any current plumbing leaks, get them repaired. Seal up cracks around your home to prevent access to the framework of your home. There are other chemical options that McNeely Pest Control offers for new construction, existing structures and termite baiting for prevention. Call us today for a free termite inspection and we would be happy to assist you in protecting one of your most important investments, your home.

### SPECIALTY SERVICE & OFFER Sentricon<sup>®</sup> — Our Solution to Termite Elimination.

Sentricon® is a baiting system for termites that we at McNeely Pest Control can install around your home or commercial property. The bait stations go into the ground and are hardly visible, providing protection around the exterior of a structure. A bait for termites? How does that work? Well, as mentioned in the above article, termites live in the soil. They perform a behavior called foraging, which means looking for food, and when they find a food source, which many times is the wood that makes up man made structures, that's where they settle. However, if they encounter a food source before they get to your home, they don't need to look any further for food!

The Sentricon® system contains a bait that is formulated to prevent termites from growing to their next stage in life. As a result, from not being able to complete their growth to the next stage in life, they die. As this keeps occurring, the queen termite cannot survive without the other members, as a result she will die. That means colony elimination! Call McNeely Pest Control today, we are happy to provide you with a free inspection and quote to begin protecting your home 24/7!



# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



#### TESTIMONIALS CLICK HERE to share your experience with McNeely Pest Control Thanks to our customers for calling and sharing their positive experiences.

Mr. Bryant called and said he was very pleased with Evan and Benny. He said they did an awesome job at both of his locations.

Mrs. Griffin called and wanted to say she is very satisfied with McNeely Pest Control. She called about wasps in the middle in the night, and Ryan was willing to go out right then to take care of the situation. Mrs. Griffin said Ryan did a wonderful job and she will be referring everyone to McNeely Pest Control.



## COMPANY EVENTS

#### **Congratulations! Dressed to Impress!**

Congratulations to our Statesville area manager, Zack Benge and his family on the birth of Titus James Benge! We think Zack is getting him off to a great start!



# JOB OPENINGS

Know of someone who you think would be an asset to our team? Please refer them to us, be sure they list your name on their application, and once they join our team, we'll send you a \$50 gift card.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO



