



DON'T SUFFER THE INVASION OF THE BUGS

Control pests cautiously, safely

Dealing with bugs is a fact of life for most people in the warm-weather months. How do you control those creepy-crawlies or buzzing insects without harming yourself, your kids or your pets? Here are a few tips that will not only help you keep the bugs away, but do it safely.

ANALYZE THE PROBLEM

Before deciding how much pest control you need and where to apply it, you have to choose where you're going to draw the line. Are some bugs in your yard and garden okay? Is it worth having the whole house sprayed with pesticides because you saw a spider in the basement? Are you trying to eradicate as many bugs as possible or one particular kind of insect that's causing the most problems?

One other thing to consider at this stage in the process is whether the damage you are seeing to your home, lawn, flowers or vegetables is coming from insects or from another source such as overwatering or fertilizing.

By understanding your problem right from the start, you'll save yourself time and money.

COME UP WITH A PLAN

Rather than going with a quick chemical option that only lasts a brief time, you could research other solutions that might work better in the long run. There are many biological controls you can introduce into your environment, such as beneficial predators, parasitoids (organisms that attach to a host organism, which they ultimately kill), and biochemical pesticides that will control your insect problem without harming small children or pets.

Simple solutions such as repairing screens on doors and windows, making sure cracks and spaces around your house are sealed and replacing weather stripping will not only help keep the bugs out but also save on energy costs.

Contact a nursery, garden center or your local state university cooperative extension for advice on the biological controls that might work best in your area.

CHOOSE A PESTICIDE

Pesticides come in many different forms, including granules, baits, powders, aerosols and dusts. Certain types work better for specific problems, while others are easier and safer to apply. Before you choose a product, read the label carefully and learn as much as possible. And then purchase only what you need. Keeping harmful pesticides around the house is a bad idea, especially if you have children or pets.

DON'T POUR DOWN THE DRAIN

Never dispose of pesticides down the drain, on your lawn or in the street. Pesticides can be extremely hazardous, and can contaminate the water supply. Always dispose of them properly. To learn how you can dispose of pesticides safely, contact your area's cooperative extension or a nursery or garden center.

STORE PESTICIDES SAFELY

Always keep chemicals in their original containers — or, if you must move them for some reason, mark them boldly and make sure you keep the instructions with the new container. Doing so ensures that you always know what you're dealing with when you use the pesticide, but also in case of an emergency or poisoning. First responders won't have to guess or search for information if the container is clearly marked and safety instructions are included.

For more information on using pesticides safely, visit the Environmental Protection Agency's website (www.epa.gov/pesticides/health).

ASSESS THE RESULTS

Whatever treatment you choose, give it time and then evaluate the results. Many long-term solutions take time to work; wait the recommended time in the instructions before reapplying a product.

HIRE A PROFESSIONAL

When in doubt or if the problem could cause danger or injury, hire a professional. There are a number of professional pest extermination companies that can assist you. Some problems, like removing a bee or hornet's nest from near your house, should always be left up to a professional because of the dangers involved.



1011 Silveranch Drive ... Offered at \$399,000

A beautiful home in Silveranch; central to town & minutes from major shopping, Lake Tahoe & Reno Airport. A tiled foyer leads to the formal living room with views of the fully landscaped backyard complete with covered patio, spa & water feature. Fully equipped kitchen offers granite counters, hardwood flooring, double ovens and wine rack and the adjoining family room features a gas log fireplace with handsome marble surround. Brightly lit with abundant windows, the master bedroom is spacious enough for oversize furnishings and has a slider to the spa deck and laminate flooring. Featured in the master bath are double sinks, jetted tub & separate shower.



1965 Mule Lane ... Offered at \$279,000

Country Rancher on one acre in Ruhensroth; zoned for horses and with BLM's miles of trails just up the street. Huge step down family room accommodates your large scale furniture and entertainment center. The kitchen has an "old southwest" feel with copper accents on the back-splash. Just minutes from town!

Nobody in the World Sells More Real Estate Than RE/MAX.

©RE/MAX, LLC. All rights reserved. Each RE/MAX® real estate office is independently owned and operated. 100598



Compliments of



Diane Bartsch

CRS, CDPE, SALESPERSON
775. 783. 6846 (Direct)
775. 781. 5050 (Cellular)
dianehome@aol.com
www.dianebartsch.com



RE/MAX REALTY AFFILIATES

Diane Bartsch

1320 Highway 395
Gardnerville, NV 89410