

# Ant Facts

## What You Need To Know

- Many ant species build their nests outdoors, and become a nuisance when they forage for food inside your home.
- Some of the more common ant species that may invade and choose to reside inside are pavement ants, carpenter ants, odorous house ants, thief ants, acrobat ants and pharaoh ants.
- Ants inside your home or apartment can be a seasonal or year-round problem.
- Once they discover a good food source, some species may decide to live inside your home, others may collect their food and leave to take the food back to their outdoor colony.
- Inside ants may be found near their food sources, moisture, and in hidden, protected places like wall voids, under appliances, behind window frames and beneath floors.
- Ants like to live close to people and eat some of the same things we do – sweets, meats, starches and liquids.
- Correct identification is crucial because ants are not all the same. Different ant species may have very different behavior, habits and habitats.

## What You Can Do

- Call your professional pest control provider to identify the types of ants you have and help create a plan to eradicate and prevent further occurrences
- Remove moisture from areas in and around your house (leaky faucets, standing drains, clogged gutters, puddles, etc.)
- Only eat in the kitchen to centralize food dispersion
- Clean up after each meal
- Don't leave dirty dishes in the sink over night
- Take out the trash frequently
- Move debris away from the home or building so ants are not attracted to it and then enter the home.
- Seal locations where wires, conduit or pipes enter the house. Use door screens, door sweeps, and window screens to prevent entry.
- Keep tree limbs pruned so they never overlap or otherwise touch the house or building. Ants will use branches to enter the home.

