

TERMITES and other WOOD DESTROYING INSECTS



TERMITES in the northeast are subterranean. Their nests are located underground. Termites eat wood as their food source. Because they prefer to avoid sunlight, wood that is buried or in contact with soil is the first to be found and eaten. To gain access to a house they can go through holes or cracks in the foundation that are below ground or tunnel through wood that is in contact with the soil. To get to a meal that is above ground a mud tube is built on a wall or other obstruction to provide access without being exposed to daylight.



CARPENTER ANTS excavate tunnels and chambers in wood to contain their nest. They don't consume wood for food but seek softer (sometimes rotted) wood to live in. Busy ant thoroughfares up walls or posts are an indication that a nest could be present. To eradicate carpenter ants it is necessary to locate and destroy the nest.



POWDERPOST BEETLES are indicated by tiny pinholes in wood surfaces. These are the holes that the beetles excavate to lay their eggs in. Out of view, they will consume wood leaving a fine dust. When the beetles come to the surface, if the wood surface is sealed with paint, stain, etc., they will leave to find another home. If the wood is accessible and tasty they will continue the cycle of laying their eggs and eating the wood.



CARPENTER BEES can be recognized by their shiny black abdomen. These bees tunnel into wood to lay their eggs. Typically, on houses, they will only exploit wood trim or siding for their excavations. Where the surfaces of structural wood members are exposed the bees can cause significant damage by repeatedly boring holes for their eggs.

All Homes should be inspected periodically for indications of infestation by Wood Destroying Insects

Contact **Homecheck uc** for a state certified inspection today: 914-485-1344 homecheckllc@optimum.net