

**Practical Recommendations
to reduce the annoyance from pests around your home.**

1. Keep tree branches, bushes, and shrubs from touching roof or siding.
2. Discourage ivy and other climbing vines from growing on your house.
3. Stack firewood away from the foundation and elevated off the ground.
4. Keep gutters and roof free of leaves and debris.
5. Seal cracks and openings in the foundation especially around utility pipes, air conditioners, and wires.
6. Seal and caulk gaps around windows and door frames.
7. Repair the weather stripping at the base of the garage door to ensure a tight fit.
8. Repair or replace damaged or rotted landscaping timbers and railroad ties.
9. Eliminate standing water and low lying areas around the house foundation.
10. Prevent mulch and soil from touching the siding on the house.
11. Install adequate screening or self-closing covers on all vents.
12. Repair loose siding, gutters, down spouts, fascia boards, and lattice work.
13. Remove debris that accumulates in the basement window wells.
14. Remove accumulated debris between deck boards. Remove the debris that accumulates where the deck abuts the house.
15. Keep mulch beds raked and well aerated.
16. Provide adequate ventilation in the crawl space below house and attic space above.
17. Direct the air conditioner drip line away from the house.
18. Modify outdoor lighting so that the source of light is away from the house.
19. Keep the lids of both trash and recycling containers closed.
20. Wood siding and fascia boards need to be painted on a regular basis to deter carpenter bees.