

# DEFEND YOUR COTTAGE

While summer is the perfect time of year to break away and visit your cottage, it is also the ideal time for pests to make your cottage their vacation destination. But a little cleaning and maintenance during your first summer trip can go a long way in defending against pests throughout the rest of the season.



## Pack First Trip Essentials



### CLEANING SUPPLIES

Brooms, mops, trash bags and disinfecting wipes and sprays are just a few of the products you'll need when cleaning your cottage.



### CAULKING GUN

Using a caulking gun to seal up cracks and gaps around windows, doors and exterior walls can prevent persistent pests from entering your summer home.



### BUG SPRAY

A summer essential, Health Canada-approved bug spray should be readily available throughout your stay and is especially handy when mosquitoes make their grand entrance.

# Give Your Cottage Some TLC

## EXTERIOR

- ✓ Check and repair tears in window or door screens, worn weather stripping or cracks and gaps in the exterior.
- ✓ Look for signs of water damage and schedule repairs immediately, if needed.
- ✓ Trim branches that are close to the side of the cottage. Pests can use vegetation as a bridge into your home.
- ✓ Clean clogged gutters or downspouts that can trap and hold water.
- ✓ Inspect attic vents. Pests can easily pry off loose vent covers to enter the attic.

## INTERIOR

- ✓ Remove spider webs in corners and dark, damp areas.
- ✓ Clean dishes and wipe down counters to remove pest food sources.
- ✓ Check the pantry for open food containers or packaging that looks damaged. Restock any food items that need to be thrown out.
- ✓ Vacuum floors to remove any overwintering insects that have died.

## Inspect for Signs of Pest Activity



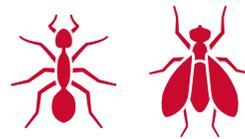
### Rodents

Droppings, gnaw marks and chewed electrical wires are all signs of a rodent presence.



### Cockroaches

Keep an eye out for roach droppings in areas like cupboards and pantries. These resemble small, pepper-like flakes and signal roaches in the vicinity.



### Ants & Flies

Keep an eye out for ant trails and buzzing flies in the first few days. The best way to identify ants and flies in your cottage is to spot these pests themselves.



### Wildlife & Bats

Holes in or around the exterior or on the roof indicate potential critter problems. If you see bats around the cottage, be sure to keep an eye out for bat bugs. These blood-feeding insects will feed on humans if the bats leave.



PEST CONTROL DOWN TO A SCIENCE.

## READY TO PUT PESTS TO REST?

Call your local Orkin Canada branch today to discover long-term solutions for your cottage.

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