

“TERMITE” TERRY’S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

February 2014



Happy Valentines Day!

www.termiteterry.com



(949) 631-7348

Inside This Issue...

- Subterranean Termite Swarming! 1
- Rave Reviews! 2
- Terry Wins Super Service Award! 2
- Is Antibacterial Soap Safe? 3
- Fun Super Bowl Facts 3
- \$1.1 Billion Lead Paint Case! 4

“Home of Your Ironclad, Money-Back Guarantee”

How To Keep Subterranean Termites Out Of Your Home

It is common to see swarming subterranean termites in Orange County during the months of February, March and April. You may see swarms of these termites flying around the exterior of your home. Or, you may come home from work one day and see hundreds of them flying around the inside of your house.

Termite swarms are part of their mating ritual. On a sunny day in the spring, particularly after a rain, the young kings and queens will take off on their “honeymoon” flight.

The first thing you’ll notice about these termites is that they look like “flying ants”. Their bodies are almost black and about ¼ inch long. There are two easy ways you can tell the difference between termites and ants:

1. Termites only have two body parts – a head and an abdomen. Ants have three body parts and a distinctive *constricted waist* between their thorax and abdomen.
2. Termites have two large pairs of wings that are almost twice the length of their body. Ants have two pairs of wings that are not equal in length and the wings are much shorter than their body length.

Another thing you’ll notice about these kings and queens is they are radically different than the whitish worker termites that almost look like *six legged maggots*. Worker termites are blind – all they do is eat wood 24/7.

When the conditions are right, the young kings and queens burst out of their nest and begin their short flight.

They are very poor fliers and often follow the prevailing breeze. They break off their wings while still in flight and spiral down to the earth or sometimes they land and then remove their wings. Kings and queens are not attracted to one another until the wings have been clipped off. They have a very high mortality rate and only about 3% survive.

Once a king finds a queen to pair off with, he follows her around until she finds a place to call home. Perhaps they will do this by excavating a small cell in moist ground, under wood. About a week later, they will mate and the male will stay with her for the rest of his life. The queen may survive up to 25 years and lay as many as 60,000 eggs.

Many homeowners are completely unaware they have a subterranean termite problem until they see these swarms in their home. While most homeowners won’t appreciate finding swarms, it can actually be a blessing in disguise. Otherwise, the subterranean termites could potentially destroy a structure and no one would ever know until it was too late.

Don’t Let Them Do This To Your Home!

I’ll never forget the story of a guy named Bob. One day, Bob decided to change the carpet in his home. Once he lifted the carpet, he noticed the carpet tack strip and baseboards were badly damaged. He didn’t think it was anything to worry about and proceeded to replace the

(turn the page)

150 Years Ago (February 16, 1864)

During the Civil War, the Confederate submarine *H. L. Hunley* sank the Union warship *USS Housatonic* in Charleston harbor, South Carolina and became the first submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat. For reasons unknown, the *Hunley* also sank about an hour later, killing all 8 crew.

Celebrating Charles Lindbergh’s Birthday!

“It is the greatest shot of adrenaline to be doing what you have wanted to do so badly. You almost feel like you could fly without the plane.”

Charles Lindbergh, born February 4, 1902

Rave Reviews!

"We used Termite Terry Pest Control to tent and fumigate the house. He then did extensive wood repairs because we had extensive termite damage.

He did a really good job. The representative was very nice. He was very thorough and very helpful. It was a traumatic thing having to move out of our house, board our animals and pack up the food and everything. He made it as easy for us as he could. They were fast. We got 3 estimates and we chose him. We were very pleased. The pricing was excellent. We would absolutely use them again."

Joan Ziegler
Westminster

"Thank you for the very great professional work you did on my two homes. When I saw you measuring the square footage, I knew the correct amount of fumigant would be used. As a senior, I really did appreciate the clear simple instructions for preparation. Your team also did a great job doing the repair work!

John from John Thomas Painting stated his work painting the repairs was simplified as everything was primed and prepared for painting by your repair crew. John Thomas also did an excellent job!

Thank you both for your professional work – you make a great team. I highly recommend both of your services!"

Francis Diaz,
San Pedro

"Thank you for the good service you gave us on our recent tenting. All of our plants came through well and in addition, we had a large amount of frozen food which your team bagged up for our protection."

Nancy Donaven
Huntington Beach

damaged parts. Once he started trying to nail on the new ones, he noticed the whole wall started to wobble. He removed some of the drywall and found the wall studs and sill plate were wiped out. By the time we got there later that afternoon, he had hired a contractor. The entire living room wall and ceiling had been opened up and the whole backside of the house had to be supported with temporary post. Almost all of the walls and ceiling in that area were completely destroyed. You can only imagine how expensive a big repair job like this would be. It was also very messy and inconvenient.

He Could Have Prevented This From Happening!

After talking with Bob, he admitted he had seen subterranean termite swarmers in this same room for several years in a row. Had Bob taken care of this problem when he first saw the swarmers, he may have been able to avoid this big mess and huge expense.

What was our fee for treating the termites you ask? It was only \$450.00! If you ever see termite swarmers in your home, don't ignore it. **Call us at (949) 631-7348**, we'll perform a thorough inspection and customize a treatment program for your home.

10 Things You Can Do To Prevent Subterranean Termites

1. In new construction, use termite shields on foundations, piers and between wooden steps or porches and the main structure to prevent termite access from the soil. We strongly recommend that soil treatments be performed prior to pouring of the foundation to prevent subterranean termites. Treatment of new wood members with borate solutions can also be very effective in preventing both drywood and subterranean termite infestations.
2. Eliminate wood contact with the ground (e.g. by replacing wooden posts and piers with concrete ones and by supporting wooden steps

- on a concrete base at least 6 inches above the ground).
3. Regrade soil around the perimeter to ensure drainage away from the building and maintain at least 6 inches clearance between wood siding or shingles and the ground.
4. Ensure there is at least 18 inches clearance in crawl spaces between all horizontal timbers and the ground.
5. Reduce humidity in crawl spaces by ensuring adequate cross-ventilation. Covering the ground with a plastic moisture barrier will reduce humidity under buildings by reducing evaporation from the soil.
6. Remove any wooden debris which might become a source of infestation beneath the building, including scrap wood, form boards, old tree roots, and even sawdust.
7. Fill any crevices or voids where they might help subterranean termites move from the ground to wood in buildings, including foundation cracks, hollow blocks, gaps between stucco and the wall and crevices around pipework.
8. Remove infested stumps and trees near buildings.
9. Eliminate sources of excess moisture such as plumbing and roof leaks. Make sure sprinklers are adjusted and stay away from the house.
10. Have your home inspected on an annual basis and if a problem is spotted, take care of it quickly.

Have a termite problem and need an inspection? **Call our office at (949) 631-7348** to schedule an appointment at your convenience.



Termite Terry Wins Esteemed 2013 Angie's List Super Service Award

"Termite" Terry Pest Control has earned the service industry's coveted Angie's List Super Service Award, reflecting an exemplary year of service provided to member's of the consumer review service in 2013.



"Termite" Terry Singleton, the company's president said, "We have been members of Angie's List for three years and are honored to have received this award for the third consecutive time. I want to especially thank our staff for always going out of their way to provide the finest customer service possible".

"Only about 5 percent of the companies "Termite" Terry Pest Control competes with in Orange County California are able to earn our Super Service Award," said Angie's List founder Angie Hicks. It's a mark of consistently great customer service."

Angie's List Super Service Award 2013 winners have met strict eligibility requirements, which include an "A" rating in overall grade, recent grade, and review period grade; the company must be in good standing with Angie's List, have a fully complete profile, pass a background check and abide by Angie's List operational guidelines.

Service company ratings are updated daily on Angie's List. Companies are graded on an A through F scale in areas ranging from price to professionalism to punctuality. Members can find the 2013 Super Service Award logo next to company names in search results on AngiesList.com.

Is Antibacterial Soap Safe?

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued a proposal to require manufacturers of antibacterial hand soaps and body washes to demonstrate their products are safe for long-term daily use. Manufacturers are also going to have to prove the benefit of using these products outweighs the risks or they must take them off the market.

The FDA says there is currently no evidence these products are more effective in preventing the spread of illness than washing with plain soap and water.

Triclosan and triclocarban are the most common active ingredients in antibacterial soaps. There is concern these chemicals may be contributing to bacterial resistance to antibiotics and may have unanticipated hormonal effects. Researchers are also studying the effects on lakes, rivers and oceans because millions of gallons of triclosan-treated soap are going down drains and may break down into dioxins in the environment.

The FDA says that consumers should continue to be diligent about washing their hands. If soap and water aren't available, they suggest you use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.

Fun Facts About The Super Bowl!

The Super Bowl will be held on February 2nd, so we thought it would be fun to share some facts about this special day:

- This year's event will be held at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford New Jersey and will be the first Super Bowl to be held outdoors in a cold-weather venue.
- The first super bowl was held in 1967 at the Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles.
- Joe Montana holds the record for the most Super Bowl MVPs with 3.
- The Pittsburg Steelers are the winningest team with 6 Super Bowl victories.
- Over-the-counter antacids see a 20% spike in sales on Super Bowl Sunday!
- Fewer weddings are held on Super Bowl Sunday than on any other day of the year.
- A 30 second TV commercial will go for about \$4 million in this year's game.
- Americans will drink about 50 million cases of beer on game day.
- Tickets for the inaugural game were sold for \$6. This year, look to spend between \$900 and \$2,600!
- The 2012 Super Bowl was the most viewed TV broadcast of any kind with 111 million US viewers and a total of 167 million worldwide.
- The Louisiana Superdome has hosted 7 Super Bowls – more than any other location.
- Americans will spend over \$12 billion on Super Bowl-related merchandise.
- The game will be broadcasted in more than 180 countries and in over 30 different languages.
- Charles Haley, a linebacker and defensive end, has the most Super Bowl wins with 5.
- The Pittsburg Steelers and the Dallas Cowboys have both played in the Super Bowl 8 times.

"Termite" Terry's Insider Information is Published by:

"Termite" Terry Pest Control, Inc.
785 W. 17th St. #G, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
(949)631-7348 www.termitemerry.com



A FREE Monthly Newsletter for Friends and Clients of:

"Termite" Terry Pest Control, Inc.

785 W. 17th St. #G
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Office: (949)631-7348 Fax: (949)722-6190

www.termiteterry.com



Use your smart phone
and click here →



Full Line of Pest Control Service || Termite Fumigations and Treatments || Dryrot and Termite Damage Repairs

**"You're Going To Love Living In A Pest Free Home.
I Guarantee It."**

California Cities Win \$1.1 Billion Lead Paint Case

Sherwin-Williams, NL Industries and ConAgra were ordered by a judge to put \$1.1 billion into a state-held fund that will be used to decontaminate homes built before 1978 that have lead-based paint. Ten California cities and counties, including Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco, brought the public-nuisance lawsuit against the makers of lead-based paint in the interest of cleaning up lead toxins found on the walls of millions of homes.

This decision will likely disrupt the sale, rental and market value of all homes built before 1978 because they are presumed to have lead-based paint. Do you think I'm exaggerating when I say that this is like dropping a "huge bomb" on the real estate market? Then, ask yourself the following questions:

"Who would want to buy a home that is considered a public nuisance and may require many thousands of dollars in lead remediation?"

"Who would want their family to move into a home that has a lead paint hazard?"

This ruling, if it isn't overturned on appeal, could open the door for countless lawsuits. Just imagine a mother delivering a baby with birth defects; How are you going to prove that your home or building with lead-based paint wasn't responsible?

I strongly recommend that you take the issue of lead-based paint seriously and have your home tested before you do any renovations, repairs or painting done because the legal risks are too great to ignore. If you are thinking about buying a home or building, have it tested before you buy – you can't afford the risk of getting involved with a structure that is deemed to be a public nuisance.



"Termite" Terry Singleton