Mefford Pest Control - Required Cockroach Treatment Preparation

Basic Information Regarding Your Treatment: Roaches are extremely resilient pests. They prefer to hide and can live for up to 3 months without a food source making it difficult to eliminate them quickly. We utilize Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods to control roaches. These methods include glue traps, gel baits, residual insecticides, and growth regulators. For our sprays to have the greatest effect, you will need to prepare your residence for the spray. Although we cannot guarantee that one spray will eradicate the roaches, we know from experience that a prepared residence will require fewer follow-up sprays.

Scheduling: Be prepared to leave the home for at least **4 hours** during the spray. The chemicals will not harm you, but the treatment will require adequate time for the treatment to dry without being touched or walked through. In addition to this, the chemical does have an unpleasant odor that typically dissipates within a few hours.

Pets: Birds MUST be removed from the home. Other pets may stay but must be kenneled. The chemicals will not harm them, but we do not want the pets to walk through wet chemicals.

Cabinets: 100% of the kitchen and bathroom cabinets and drawers must be emptied and the contents placed in the middle of the living room floor or dining/kitchen table. We are NOT allowed to remove these items, this must be completed before we arrive. Any cabinets with items in them will not be sprayed.

Appliances: If accessible, our technicians will pull out your larger appliances and spray under and behind them. Smaller appliances (coffee makers, microwaves, toasters, etc.) may remain on the counters.

Post Treatment: Allow the chemical to remain. Do not wet mop or wipe the cabinets out after the treatment. However, you may vacuum the cabinets after treatment.

Initially, you may see an increase in the number of roaches. This is typical; the initial spray forces them out of hiding. Roaches that are dormant or in hiding during the spray will eventually consume the bait products, but this will take time for the chemical to begin working in the colony. You should see an improvement after 7 -10 days but may need monthly follow-up services. A general rule of thumb is that *"for every month you have noticed the roaches, it will take twice as many months to eradicate them."*

If the problem persists after 10 days, it is advised that the homeowner call the office to schedule a follow-up spray. Tenants/renters should contact their management or landlord to approve scheduling follow-up services.

Customer Responsibility

- **The biggest attractant for roaches is FOOD! Ensure food is placed in sealed containers and counters are kept free of crumbs and food.**
- **Wash soiled dishes and do not leave food on dishes before washing.**
- **Sweep and mop regularly.**
- **Keep trash cans covered and dump frequently.**
- **Clean garbage and food spills promptly.**
- **Run garbage disposal regularly and keep sink strainer clean.**
- **Roaches need water. Fix any faucet leaks and cover pet water when not in use.**
- **Cover pet food dishes when not in use and store food in sealed containers.**
- **Remove any cardboard, magazines, and clutter. Roaches love cardboard and glue.**
- **Dirty clothes need to be picked up and washed regularly to prevent roaches from nesting in them.**
- **Rinse all recyclables before placing them in bins.**
- **Do not use newspaper or contact paper to line shelves and drawers in kitchen cabinets.**
- **Keep your home clean and clutter-free. Roaches love to hide and can "hibernate" for 3 months without a food source.**
- **The use of aerosol "bombs" and "home remedies" should be avoided before, during, and after our treatments. These are counterproductive and can be more harmful than helpful.**

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