

TIPS FOR SPRING CLEANING

- Alfred Ardis

As spring approaches and the weather improves, many homeowners will begin to concentrate on their spring cleaning.



When planning a spring cleaning to-do list, be sure not to ignore any places where pests may be congregating. Having a pest control company treat the house at the beginning of the season is a great idea, but there are some additional things the homeowner can do to keep the home free of any unwelcome visitors.

Kitchen

The kitchen is a common place for bugs and rodents to congregate as this room provides easy access to food and water sources.

Ants are particularly notorious for finding their way into the kitchen, searching for leftover crumbs or sticky spills left on the floor or counters. Even if the kitchen is cleaned daily, there are some additional ways to keep these bugs at bay.

First, thoroughly vacuum and scrub the floor. Get into the corners, under the cabinets, around the trash can area, and near the larger appliances. If possible, try to pull the stove out to vacuum on the sides and behind it, as this is a prime area for food

particles to gather. Next, sweep and mop the pantry floor and remove all the items from the shelves. Wipe down the shelves and add or replace the shelf lining paper.

Also, give the counters a scrubbing with some cleanser and a sponge. Take everything off the counters beforehand, especially the toaster. The toaster area can be a major source of food since there are often crumbs left behind.

Bathroom

The bathroom is a prime hangout for roaches and silverfish. They are attracted to moisture, which is why they enjoy being in this part of the home. The best way to prevent them from appearing is to remove any source of water because they cannot survive for a week without water.

Check under the sink and around the bathtub for any potential leaks. Feel the pipes to see if there is any moisture. If there is a moisture problem, have a pest control company treat the bathroom once the issue has been resolved.

Basement

The basement is a popular area for rodents due to the fact that it is a dark underground space with plenty of storage containers that pests can live in. When spring cleaning, go through any storage boxes to declutter the space and check for rodents. Avoid storing anything in cardboard boxes, as rodents will simply chew through them. Instead, invest in some plastic storage containers with tight-fitting lids. Also, go around the basement and look for any cracks that need to be sealed. Seal those with silicone or caulk. Leaving these spaces open invites pests into the home as they can squeeze through the smallest of spaces.

Springtime is a prime season for getting the home nice and clean. Pest control should be part of everyone's spring cleaning routine.

