

## **What time is it? It's termite time!**

Termites are wood destroying insects that have a purpose in the natural scheme of things. They are designed to eat as much dead wood as they can find, and they do a Cracker Jack job of it. Imagine what the world would be like with years of fallen branches and trees accumulating if this wasn't going on.

The problem with termites is that they don't know the difference between the dead wood on forest floors and the wood in the floors of our homes--and the walls, ceilings, and roofs too. It's all the same to them. Dinner.

In some areas of the country there are a number of different types of termites. Most termites are of the various subterranean varieties, a number of which are in Ohio. In other areas of the country there are dry wood termites, dampwood termites and Formosan termites. All of them present different levels of difficulty and technique when it comes to control.

According to the Ohio Pest Control Association the primary concern in Ohio is subterranean termites. That's fortunate for Ohio Homeowners, because treatment for termites found in the state is well understood, although not uncomplicated. There are a number of programs used including baiting and liquid pesticides that do an excellent job.

When a home is attacked by termites, the situation can't be ignored. Serious damage can be done in very short periods of time. Often pest control operators will get a call saying "there are thousands of ants flying around my house." It's possible these may be termites swarming, and it's difficult for non-professionals to distinguish them from less destructive insects. Homeowners can deal with some pest problems on their own, but if termites are present, or even suspected, it's time to consult a pest control professional.

The safest and most effective solution to a serious pest problem is the services of an experienced, licensed pest management professional. To locate a qualified pest control operator in your area contact the Ohio Pest Control Association at 937-222-1024, visit the OPCA web site at [www.ohiopca.com](http://www.ohiopca.com), or send e-mail to [info@ohiopca.com](mailto:info@ohiopca.com)

The Ohio Pest Control Association is the only trade association dedicated solely to the pest control industry in the state of Ohio. With approximately 200 member companies in communities throughout the state, OPCA is The Voice of the Pest Control Industry in Ohio.