

Environmental Pest Management, Inc.

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Carpenter Bees

- They are wood destroying insects.
- They excavate tunnels in wood for shelter and a place to lay eggs and rear their young.
- They use and expand upon the same tunnel systems year after year, if left untreated.

Control Methods

- **Preventive spray application** to wood surfaces in the spring. This application discourages the bees from tunneling into treated areas. For best results, preventive applications may need to be performed 2-3 times during the peak season (early spring – early summer).
- **Treating and plugging** of already established holes/tunnel systems. Applying material directly into the galleries to eliminate adult bees and larvae. Treated holes are then plugged with a wooden dowel. This prevents continued use of the tunnels and re-infestation.

Important Notes

- Carpenter Bees are important pollinators and generally do not sting. We want to prevent them from damaging the wood on your home, but cannot prevent them from flying around, testing wood, or even beginning to drill a hole.
- Our ultimate goal is to prevent Carpenter Bees from creating galleries inside the wood and using those galleries year after year, causing continued damage and nuisance. This can also help deter woodpeckers from damaging wood, as they channel out the Carpenter Bee tunnel systems in search of eggs and larvae.
- You can discourage carpenter bees from drilling in to the wood on your home by painting/staining wood surfaces or choosing building materials that are unattractive to carpenter bees (composites, metal flashing, hardwoods, etc.).
- If wood has been severely damaged by carpenter bees or channeled out by woodpeckers (who feed on the carpenter bee larvae), we may advise that the wood be removed, replaced, or covered with materials such as aluminum or composite flashing.

Insects - Rodents - Wildlife

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