



Bugs & Pests

BUG & PEST POLICY

Cardinal Properties does not spray for bugs, spiders, ants, earwigs, etc.

Professional pest spraying is at tenant's choice and expense.

Tenants should take caution to ensure a problem doesn't develop by:

- Washing dishes every day
- Reduce clutter in the home to provide less of a safe haven for pests.
- Throw out old food and take out the trash- insects are drawn to food that is left out and undisturbed, even if the food has not gone bad.
- Use sanitizer such as bleach to clean up damp areas of the house– pests can be drawn to dark and moist areas and bleach makes it impossible for them to live there, sanitizing the area, and making it more pleasant in general.
- Move things around. Insects can make their homes in garden furniture and patio chairs, not to mention large jars and potted plants. Moving furniture and pots around and cleaning underneath them makes it a little less comfortable for pests.
- Do a thorough clean of the home or unit once a month by sweeping, mopping, and scrubbing. This will discourage pests from coming into your home.
- Be prepared for extra bug/pest sightings when the seasons change as the “critters” like to stay warm too!

Residents must fully cooperate with the manager to identify and address infestations, including allowing management access for inspections and for pest treatments.

Some infestations, including bed bugs, require multiple treatments over the course of several weeks.

Tenant is responsible for the cost of any furniture or clothing replacement resulting from an infestation or any cleaning services required.



PEST ATTRACTORS

Prevention is the best tool to use in keeping pests out of the home. Dealing with problem areas is the best way to stop an infestation.

- Put food away promptly
- Clean up water/wet spots - get drips and leaks fixed promptly
- Keep sweets/sugar in sealed containers
- Dispose of garbage regularly
- Get rid of clutter
- Be cautious of infected second hand furniture or clothes



ANTS

Where you find them

- Kitchen cabinets
- Behind moldings
- Baseboards

Remedies

- Cinnamon or black pepper – Shake either spice onto area ants like or across their paths to keep them away.
- Apple Cider Vinegar – Spray a mixture of equal parts apple cider vinegar and water on surfaces that attract ants.
- White vinegar – spray on surfaces that attract ants
- Sage or mint – sprinkle leaves and flowers from sage or mints to keep ants out of specific areas.
- Windex and Ivory soap. Mix equal parts window cleaner and soap and squirt on problem areas



SPIDERS

Prevention

- Regular dusting and vacuuming will keep spiders from making themselves at home
- Organize your home – remove problem areas by tidying them up regularly

Remedies:

- White vinegar – clean affected areas with equal portions white vinegar and water.
- Citrus – keep citrus fruits in a bowl on the kitchen counter. Rub citrus peel along entry or problem areas. Soak orange peels in vinegar over night and spray around baseboard, etc.
- Essential oils – add peppermint, tea tree oil, citronella, rose, lavender, cinnamon, eucalyptus or catnip essential oil to water and spray baseboards, etc.
- Chestnuts – place horse chestnuts along windowsills or baseboards to keep spiders away from those areas
- Borax – sprinkle a little borax powder in problem areas.



EARWIGS

Earwigs like dark and moist areas

Clean up:

- Vacuum
- Take out the trash.
- Move things around and expose them to sun.

Remedies:

- Add a tablespoon of dishwashing soap to a gallon of water along with plant fertilizer when watering plants.
- Spray entry areas with cedar oil.
- Sprinkle cedar chips around house.



RODENTS

What to watch for

- Sightings
- Noise
- Gnaw marks or holes
- Droppings

Clean up

- Clean up food – seal accessible food in airtight containers
- Make sure doors have close-fitting sweeps
- Install screens on windows
- Plug holes with steel wool



BED BUGS

What to watch for

- Red, itchy bites
- Uncomfortable nights
- Marked arms and shoulders
- A buggy bed - bed bugs will leave behind blood stains resembling small rust spots, usually near the corners and edges of the bed. Bed bugs also shed their skin, or molt, several times as they mature, so you may find their oval brown exoskeletons.
- A strong, unpleasant, musty odor like that of a wet towel

Prevention

- Be cautious of second hand furniture and clothing
- Clean bedding & clothing regularly at high heat
- Vacuum carpet and upholstered items regularly

Remediation

- In case of infestation, contact a professional pest control service.