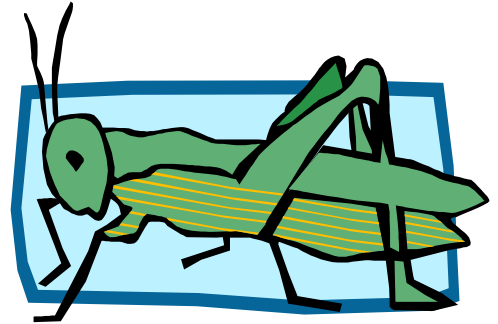


Keeping Unwanted Pests Out of Your Home

by Dan Haase, Associate Director of Facilities

No one wants to think about insects and rodents, but both are common pests in Texas homes. There are ways to minimize the opportunity for these pests to be found in your home. If you do experience a problem, there is a right way and a wrong way to deal with it. Together, we can work to keep your apartment pest-free. Here are some important tips:

- ⊕ Avoid leaving doors open for any length of time, such as unloading the car or just for fresh air. This is a very common entry point for pests. If you have installed a fabric insect screen over an exterior door opening, care must be exercised to ensure this is really a tight fit. Keep in mind that rodents can chew through this material, and insects can just go under it.
- ⊕ Keep a tidy house. Don't give pests a reason to visit and decide to stay. Put food away after eating. Remove food trash from your home as soon as possible. Wash dishes or put them in the dishwasher and latch the door.
- ⊕ Don't feed stray animals outside your apartment. Rodents like the same food dogs and cats like. Further, stray dogs and cats are often carriers of pests such as ticks and fleas.
- ⊕ If you notice a pest problem in your home, don't try to manage it yourself. In an apartment environment, a small problem can become a big one in a hurry, as the tenants "chase" the pests from their apartment to their neighbor's. Do not buy chemicals or glue traps. Instead, contact Campus Maintenance at 817-923-1921, ext 2290 to report the problem.
- ⊕ Depending on the pest, the response will be as follows:
 - For insects, the seminary uses a professional pest control company. They are scheduled to come out every Friday to treat housing units that have been reported to Campus Maintenance as having a problem with insects.
 - For rodents, our carpentry shop will respond. We use the carpentry shop because often there is an entry point somewhere that must be closed up. We may also set traps. Rodent control is really a two step process. The hole(s) must be closed up, and any rodents in the unit must be eliminated.
- ⊕ Have patience if you do experience problems, especially with rodents. There is no spray or magic solution to eliminating a rodent. It takes patience and diligence. We will work with you to get the problem under control as quickly as possible.



Maintenance Requests ♦ 817-923-1921, ext. 2290

Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week | Maintenance Repairs | Pest Control and Rodent Control | There is someone ready to answer your call!

Campus Security 817-923-1921, ext. 4357 (HELP)

- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Call immediately if you see something suspicious (no matter how insignificant).
- Call if you are locked out of your home and the Housing Office is closed.
- If you have a life threatening emergency, call 911. Then call Campus Security.

Who is Facilities Maintenance?

The Facilities Maintenance department (which includes Landscaping) serves the campus community by providing clean, safe, and welcoming surroundings conducive to living and learning. Our goal is to maintain our housing properties efficiently through careful stewardship of our resources. As a result, we are able to provide a well maintained home for our students to live in while keeping rent costs as low as possible. To accomplish this task, we need your help in reporting anything that need repairs inside and outside of your home. Working together, we can keep our housing communities a great place to live.