

# TERMITE CONTROL AND TREATMENT

When you closed on your home you received your termite bond.

## **What is a Termite Bond?**

Termite bonds are contracts with a pest control company that enable you to receive a certain number of inspections and treatments within a year to protect your home from termites. The bond covers a period from 8-10 years. You should check your termite bond to determine the coverage.

In order to keep this bond you are required to renew your maintenance annually with the company that is covering your home. If you let this expire, it could cost you more money in the end, if you have to find a new company. Your termite company should be sending you a reminder prior to the annual renewal. If they haven't done this, please call them and let them know you'd like an annual reminder.

Termites are wood-destroying insects; experts estimate they cause \$5 billion in property damage each year. In Georgia, Eastern and Formosan subterranean termites build underground nests. They are extremely destructive because they tunnel their way into wooden structures, where they burrow to obtain food. All termites share a virtually insatiable appetite for wood and other materials that contain cellulose. If left to their own devices, they will feed on the wood until there is nothing left but a shell.

It is critical that you maintain termite coverage on your home to protect your home investment.

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## TERMITES: WHAT ARE THEY?

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## TERMITES: WHAT TO LOOK FOR

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You're more likely to discover you have a termite problem by discovering the evidence they leave behind rather than the actual termites themselves. Here are some example of the evidence they leave behind: You're more likely to discover you have a termite problem by finding the evidence they leave behind instead of the actual termites themselves. Here are some examples of termite damage evidence:

- Piles of small, delicate wings shed by reproductives
- Mud tubes built by termites for above ground travel
- Damaged or hollow sounding wood
- Pinholes in drywall or wallpaper

Check out this video to learn more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzGkU4oFnoA>

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## HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE TERMITES?

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Termites typically go unnoticed by the property owner for several years after a colony has been established at the property. If left untreated, these colonies will produce the winged

swarmers that propagate and establish more damaging colonies in three-to-five years. Most property owners are unaware they have a termite infestation until they see the winged swarmers, and by that time, substantial damage may have been done to the property. What's even worse is the swarmers that a colony releases outdoors often go completely unnoticed. A typical mature colony of 240,000 termites consumes an average of about 20 grams of wood in a 24-hour period. This converts to about 16 pounds of wood per colony each year! That may not seem like much, but like a disease that spreads slowly, it's much better to catch a termite infestation sooner rather than later. That's why we recommend you hire one of Forsyth Exterminating's termite control professionals to do regular inspections as a part of a preventative maintenance program. Catching termites early in their invasion of your home or place of business ensures you save money and are at a lower risk of incurring any major structural damage. Of all nuisance insects, termites are among the pests that cause the most expensive damage. Subterranean termites alone cause more than 1.5 billion dollars in damage in the United States annually.

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## TERMITES: WHAT TO DO

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Even if you never notice any of these signs of termite damage, it is quite possible to have a hidden termite problem. The best way to be sure is to call your termite company and schedule an appointment for one of their termite control specialists to conduct a complete inspection and analysis of your property.

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## HOW TO INSPECT YOUR GARAGE AND HOME FOR TERMITES

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dNboCnzOg7s&t=22s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9TOQhKZj6s>