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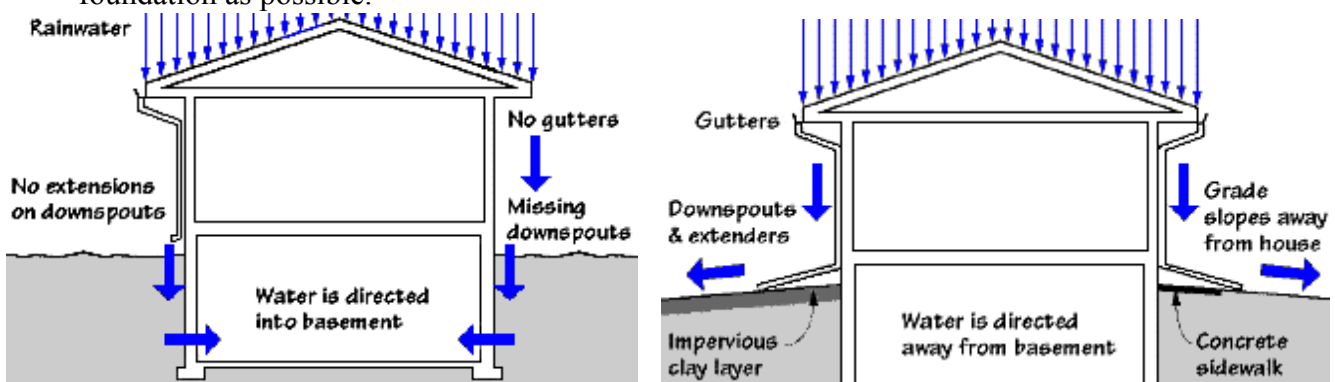
Yankee Pest Control

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Yankee Pest Control is a full service pest control practicing IPM (integrated pest management). The following recommendations are intended to help homeowners minimize the risk of insect and rodent infestation and reduce the need for pesticide use in the home. Following these recommendations will also help necessary treatments work quicker, more effectively and with longer lasting results. Even with an ongoing pest control program it is necessary to eliminate conducive conditions to increase the effectiveness and longevity of treatments and reduce the likely hood of future and ongoing infestations.

General Pest Control Recommendations

- Recommend keeping mulch pulled back from foundation at least 24 inches. Mulch holds moisture, provides insect harborage, and increases the need for pesticide use. Crushed stone is a great substitute against the foundation.
- Avoid wood to soil/earth contact. Termites forage along the top 8 inches of soil looking for a food source. The closer the wood is to the ground the more likely a home is to be attacked by termites. Avoid wood piles, landscaping timbers, planters, whiskey barrels, and similar items. The more foundation showing in between the first layer of shingles and the soil the better. A minimum of 8 inches is recommended.
- Keep gutters and downspouts in good working order to keep water running as far away from the home as possible. The grade around the house should direct water as far away from the foundation as possible.



- Keep trees, shrubs, and ivy trimmed back from the home. Carpenter Ants (which feed on the honeydew produced by aphids living on trees, tree sap and plant juices) are notorious for nesting in wood near areas of the home that are overgrown. Leaving trees against the home also leads to moisture problems, an attraction for almost all insects.
- Seal all holes larger than ¼ inch to prevent mouse entry. Concrete and steel wool are effective for sealing smaller cracks and holes. Common entry points include voids around pipes, basement windows, bulkheads and cracks in foundations. Installing weather stripping around garage doors is often needed to create a good seal.
- Keep bird seed, grass seed and dry pet foods stored properly in heavy airtight containers as these are some of the favorite foods of rodents. Bird feeders and wood piles should be kept as far from the structure as possible.
- All crawl spaces should be appropriately vented and a proper vapor barrier should be in place. Crawl spaces are notorious for pest problems due to the dark, moist, humid conditions associated with most crawl spaces. Speak with your home inspector about proper venting, vapor barriers and construction techniques.
- Popular areas for carpenter ant and termite infestations are improperly flashed decks and entryways, garage door frames, corner boards, low lying decks, basement window frames and porches with improper construction techniques, excessive moisture and wood to soil contact.
- Avoid creating inaccessible areas under porches, decks, crawl spaces, and attics. If problems develop in these areas treatment may not be possible without gaining access.
- Bathroom fan and dryer vents should be properly vented to the exterior of the home to avoid excessive humidity and moisture.
- Exterior trash cans should be made of metal or heavy plastic and have tight fitting lids.
- Chimneys should be capped to exclude animals such as raccoons, squirrels and birds.
- Storage under decks and porches should be minimal as to not create inviting homes for rodents and nuisance wildlife.

While following these recommendations are a great way to minimize pest problems only a trained pest control technician can properly inspect and service your home. Ask your pest control technician or inspector about additional inspection, monitoring and service plans. Please keep in mind your inspector only gets a look at your home for about one hour out of the entire year. Some homes contain many inaccessible areas making inspection difficult. An experienced inspector can pick up small signs the average homeowner can't but are still unable to see behind finished walls and ceilings. Regular inspections are an important part of home maintenance and a great way to avoid costly damage to your home.

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