

Don't Set a Table for Pests!

Serving them costs more than you think!

You work hard to keep your restaurant kitchen clean, yet roaches, ants and flies can still find a way in. The following tips will help minimize pests in your restaurant and reduce the use of toxic chemicals that are harmful to the environment:



What You Can Do

Please don't feed the pests!

- Keep your kitchen free of food scraps.
- Take out garbage each night in a closed container.
- Refrigerate all food or store in pest-proof containers each night.
- Keep ventilation system working properly to keep greasy residue off walls.

Drains and Trash Cans – Home-Sweet-Home for Pests

- Steam clean or scrub floor drains with a brush to help eliminate fruit flies.
- Keep dumpster area clean – inside and out. It's a smelly job, but if you don't do it, the roaches will.
- Wash garbage cans periodically, without discharging wash water to storm drain.

Pests Like Appliances

- Keep dishwasher area clean. Check the trap nightly.
- Where possible, elevate appliances at least 6 inches off the floor.
- Clean under appliances nightly.
- Steam clean or wash appliances weekly.
- Remember to clean under the counter, under the sink, and the refrigerator vent.

Head off a Sneak Attack

- Check for pests before bringing supplies in to kitchen. Roaches like corrugated boxes.
- Don't store boxes in the kitchen – take boxes away or store in a refrigerated area.
- Seal any gaps below doors.

Assign the tasks listed above to a "Pest Control Captain." Check weekly to be sure they are done.

How To Get The Most From Your Pest Service

You and your pest service together can keep your restaurant free of pests and use fewer pesticides that can harm the Bay and ocean. Many pest services will use less toxic methods to control pests at your request. Ask your pest service to:

Reduce Habitat

- Inspect the entire restaurant – inside and out.
- Suggest physical modifications that may help to eliminate pest behavior.
- Suggest changes in your food storage or cleanup practices to eliminate food sources for pests.
- Place boric acid powder in wall voids.
- Seal cracks and crevices.
- Fill holes in the building's exterior.

Monitor for Pests

- Use sticky traps to monitor how well your pest control program is working. Pests caught in traps warn of a possible problem.

Use baits first

- Use baits for controlling pests.
- Use chemicals only as a last resort. If absolutely necessary, choose less toxic chemicals, and ask your pest service to provide you with label information.



Remember: Pests are only a symptom – food sources and habitat are the problem.

