



# Ecopest Inc.

Complete Pest Control and Tree Spraying Services

6792 - 99 Street Edmonton, AB T6E 5B8

Tel: (780) 448-2661 Fax: (780) 944-6910 Toll Free: 1-866-269-2847

Grande Prairie: (780) 539-1877 Red Deer: (403) 340-3652

Email: [service@ecopest.ca](mailto:service@ecopest.ca) Website: [www.ecopest.ca](http://www.ecopest.ca)

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Dear Residents:

## Re: Pharaoh Ant Information

We are carrying out pharaoh ant bait applications in your unit. It is very important that we work together to ensure successful elimination.

After the bait stations are placed, one will see ants trailing to and from these bait stations. **Do not spray or disturb the ants or bait stations.** Ants must be allowed to carry the bait back into their nest where the active ingredient in the bait will eliminate the colony. The baiting program that will be put in place will take several months to be effective and could easily require a year to completely eliminate the ants.

When doing a baiting program you want to get the ants feeding on the bait as soon as possible. There are several things that you as residents can do to increase the likelihood that the ants will feed on the bait. It is important that the following be carried out to reduce pharaoh ants and make the bait effective:

- Do not leave pet food out at night
- Do not leave water bowls for pets out at night
- If you must leave these out put masking tape around bottom to trap the ants
- Do not leave cookies, candies, etc. out at night
- Clean out the bottom of toasters, toaster ovens, etc.
- Clean window sills, ceiling lights of dead flies
- Clean out light traps
- Do not leave fruit such as bananas out at night
- Clean out condensation pan in refrigerator
- Put vegetables such as potatoes, onions in sealed containers
- Keep counters clean and free of crumbs
- Maintain good sanitation practices – keep kitchen area very clean – do not leave any food or dirty dishes lying on the counter to attract the ants

Other control tips are:

- Check that taps are not dripping
- Check hot water tank for drips at the over-flow
- Clean bread boards, bread canisters, etc.
- Store chocolates, nuts, candies in sealed containers
- Clean grease from sides of stoves and ovens, from pots and pans, and from walls around the stove or cooking areas
- Clean baby bottles and nipples and store in baggies
- Clean out over-flows in wash basins and bathtubs
- Make sure cosmetics are capped
- Make sure fish and bird food (hamsters, reptiles, etc.) are sealed in containers
- Do not over-water house plants
- Do not let garbage pile up

Communication is another extremely important factor when carrying out the baiting program. Regular monitoring and bait application is extremely important. If you notice any ant activity, please contact Ecopest directly and the Resident Manager so that we can inspect and re-bait as needed. **It is extremely important that you do not spray or disturb the ants or bait stations.** Pharaoh ants are the most persistent and difficult of all household ants to control. We need to bait continuously until control is achieved.