



**ANGEL  
PEST CONTROL**

## GUIDE TO ANTS

### ABOUT ANTS

Ants are very common in Texas and the NO. 1 pest reported by customers.

Our warm climate and mild winters are ideal for a variety of pest including ants. During our rainy seasons ants are sometimes flooded out of their environments outside and take shelter in our homes or businesses, during the periods of heavy rains ant populations can become very large and spread across your property or neighborhood. During our hot dry summers ants might take shelter in our homes, under our sidewalks or foundations of our homes. During our mild winters the temperatures might force ants to seek shelter deeper into the ground, in rotten tree branches and stumps on your property or in your home where they rest and prepare for warmer weather in the spring. In our part of Texas when we get a warm winter day it is not uncommon to see ants moving about.

### PREVENTION

Keeping a tidy home inside and out is the first step in an ongoing process that helps prevent a large ant infestation.

### TYPES OF ANTS

Ants in Texas come in a variety of sizes and color so proper identification of the species is important for gaining control. Even the smallest ants can become a BIG problem.

Angel Pest Control's common ant list:

**Carpenter Ant-** large reddish black to solid black  
**Habitat-** outside in trees but will spread to homes exterior and interior and can cause damage to wood inside and outside your home or business.

**Acrobat Ant-** medium to large reddish black  
**Habitat-** outside in trees and bushes but will spread to your home, wooden fence, firewood piles

**Fire Ants-** medium to small reddish-brown to brown and black  
**Habitat-** often found outside in yards and flowerbeds- easily identifiable mounds in yard, next to home foundation, sidewalks, electrical boxes. **NOT ALWAYS VISIBLE MOUND** and will move inside your home for food, water or shelter.

**Sugar Ants-** small ants with hundreds of different species that vary in color and appearance.

**Habitat-** usually outside but often found on counter tops, sinks, pantries, stoves.

Improper identification and treatment of these small ants can cause big problems because they can spread quickly if disturbed.

**Leaf Cutter Ants-** very large ants with red to brown coloration.

**Habitat-** Outside primarily but improper treatment can push them under your slab and into your home. These ants can strip a small tree or bush of its leaves overnight.

They can often be identified by walking in a straight line carrying large leaf clippings back to their nest.



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# PREVENTION TIPS

1. **Keep food in sealed containers, clean spills immediately. Wipe and clean cooking surfaces, utensils, pots and pans after each use. Ants like sugar ants get their name for a reason, they are often found in sources of food.**
2. **When moving potted plants from indoors to outdoors and back inside inspect for ants and other pests.**
3. **Keep gutters clear of debris**
4. **Trim tree limbs**
5. **Seal cracks**
6. **Fix plumbing leaks**
7. **Keep yard maintained**

**Be careful using store bought products they can sometimes spread the infestation and make control even more difficult later...even for a professional.**

**If you have persistent ant activity give us a call right away. Small ants can turn into a big problem that will cost more money in the long run requiring multiple services and expenses.**

**When it comes to the bigger ants like carpenter ants getting professional help early can help save time and money. Especially if there is an underlying issue with your home or business or if a real estate transaction is in the future. Carpenter ants are considered a wood-destroying insect.**

**Angel Pest Control has been professionally treating home and commercial properties for ants of all shapes and sizes since 1987.**