



Cockroach Elimination In Food Facilities

FOLLOW EACH OF THESE STEPS:

- ROACH TRAPS – Place traps in different areas to determine the location and relative numbers of cockroaches present.**

The use of cockroach traps is invaluable in monitoring cockroach infestations in food establishments. Usually, several cockroach traps (6 to 12) can adequately indicate the extent of an infestation overnight and enable the food service operator to direct a pest control technician to the general sites where cockroaches have been detected.

- INSECTICIDE USE – “Crack and crevice” spray treatment must be performed by a licensed pest control company**

For most infestations a professional is needed for chemical applications. Thorough “crack and crevice” spray treatment is essential for the elimination of the infestation.

Fogging is not a substitute for “crack and crevice” treatment. It can be used as a supplement by a licensed pest control technician in extreme cases.

- ROACH TRAPS – Repeat step (1) above with new roach traps to determine the effectiveness of the spray treatment.**

In addition to applying the proper treatment methods, the food service operator must continue to monitor known harborage sites. The food service operator must continue to check for infestations in new areas due to the movement of cockroaches during the spray treatment. Even if a thorough spray treatment has been done, the new traps may reveal continued activity.

- INSECTICIDE USE – Follow-up spray treatment will be necessary if there is evidence of continued infestation.**

Usually, some activity continues after the initial spray treatment. If this is the case, the food service operator must call for follow-up treatment. When cockroach trap activity ceases, monitoring must continue for at least one month. Egg cases left by mature female cockroaches may hatch at any time during this period.

- CLEANING – It is necessary that all food service areas be thoroughly cleaned to avoid re-infestations.**

A cleaning schedule should include:

- ✓ Daily activities such as cleaning all cooking and work surfaces.
- ✓ Weekly activities such as cleaning the interior of cabinets and other storage areas.
- ✓ A timetable for cleaning walls, ventilation hoods, and the moving of equipment to reach covered or enclosed areas.

- STRUCTURAL REPAIRS – Eliminate cockroach hiding and breeding locations**

If harborage areas are located in deteriorated walls or around pipes entering walls, structural repairs are necessary. For extensive infestations, poorly constructed shelving or tables that provide crevices or voids should be replaced with properly designed and constructed equipment.