## WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

For more information and to dispose of unwanted pesticides contact:

Environmental Protection Agency's Integrated Pest Management web site. http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/ipm.htm

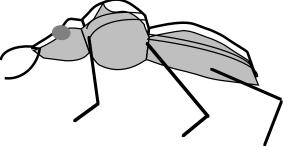
City of Tucson/ Pima County Household Hazardous Waste Program 888-6940 or 740-3340 http://www.deq.co.pima.az.us

Ramon Estrada CASA Program Coordinator Child & Family Resources, Inc. 881-8940

This factsheet was prepared under the Community Assist of Southern Arizona (CASA) program which is funded in part by Grant #1 R25 ES11-080-01 from the National Institutes of Environmental Health (NIEHS). It does not necessarily reflect the views of NIEHS, and no official endorsement should be inferred.

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# SOME NATURAL PESTICIDE ALTERNATIVES



# For the safety of you, your family and your pets





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Many chemical pesticides are very toxic, and in addition to killing pests, they can harm you, your children, your pets and the environment. So next time, before reaching for that can of bug spray, try some of these safer alternatives.

# <u>ANTS</u>

- Spray ants with soapy water.
- Locate where the ants are entering your home, and place citrus oil and/or cayenne pepper along their entry area.
- To make your own indoor ant traps, mix together onehalf teaspoon each of honey, borax and a sugar substitute. Place the mixture into bottles and place the open bottles on their sides in the areas where ants are present. The ants will take the mixture back to their nests as food, and it will kill the entire colony. (Keep borax away from your children and pets).

# <u>FLIES</u>

- Sprinkle clothe pieces with a few drops of eucalyptus oil, and place them on the table where your food will be served, as well as near your pet's food dish.
- Make sachets with cheesecloth and stuff them with dried basil leaves, bay leaves, cloves and eucalyptus oil. Place the sachets near doors or windows or anywhere else that flies are causing a problem.

#### **FLEAS**

- Add brewer's yeast and garlic to your pet's food.
- Outdoors, brush or comb your pet regularly.
- Using mild soap and water, bathe your pet regularly.
- Score the skin of a whole lemon, then slice the lemon, place the slices into a glass or stainless steel container and add one cup of boiling water. Soak the slices in the water overnight. The next day, remove the slices

and rub the water into your pet's fur. If your pet is large or has a lot of fur, use an additional lemon and cup of water.

#### **COCKROACHES**

- If you do not have cats, make sachets with cheesecloth and stuff them with dried catnip. Place the sachets where roaches are present. You can also make a catnip tea and spray the tea behind counters, the back of cabinets and along all baseboard.
- Spray roaches directly with soapy water to kill them.
- If you have cabinets that drop down from the ceiling, place borax on top of them. The roaches will take the borax back to their nest, and it will kill the entire colony. (Note: keep borax away from children and pets, and do not place near food).
- Purchase nontoxic roach traps.

#### **BEES and WASPS**

- If you have a nest in your home or yard, call a professional to remove the nest and properly treat the area.
- When outside, keep food and drinks covered.
- Do not swat or squash bees and wasps. When you do their bodies release chemicals called pheromones that signal other bees or wasps to attack, and you could be swarmed.
- If planning to be outdoors during the summer, avoid wearing bright colors and strong perfumes.

### <u>MOTHS</u>

- Make sachets with cheesecloth and either stuff them with cedar chips or a stuffing material sprinkled with cedar oil. Place the sachets in areas where moths are a problem.
- Note: Each of the above alternatives are in addition to keeping the kitchen wiped-up, washing dishes regularly, sealing foods in proper containers, vacuuming and dusting frequently, keeping all leaky faucets repaired and sealing up all cracks.