

# Why You Should Do a Pest Inspection

Should you do a pest inspection when purchasing a home? In my opinion, absolutely!

There are many different pests to be concerned about.

Carpenter ants, powder post beetles, termites, and now bed bugs are currently an epidemic in Ohio.

Carpenter ants nest in moist wood including rotting trees, tree roots, tree stumps, and logs or boards lying on or buried in the ground. They can also nest in moist or decayed wood inside buildings. Wood decay may be caused by exposure to leaks, condensation, or poor air circulation. Nests have been found behind bathroom tiles, around tubs, sinks, showers, and dishwashers, under roofing, in attic beams, and under subfloor insulation, as well as hollow spaces such as doors, curtain rods, and wall voids. Carpenter ants may also nest in foam insulation.

Termites live in colonies in the soil underground. They come up to their above ground food sources via mud tubes. These tubes are made from soil and wood combined with termite saliva. These tubes protect the termite from drying out. You should never store wood inside of your home or stack up against your home - it attracts termites.

Powder post beetles are small, reddish-brown insects that attack lumber and by their feeding activity reduce the wood to powder. You will see tiny mounds of fine powder. They are fairly easy to identify.

Until recently, the only insect issues that Realtors had to be concerned about were wood-destroying insects such as ants and powder post beetles. Now, add bed bugs to the list of pests to inspect your potential home for. There is a bed bug epidemic in Ohio and NYC. You can bring them into your home on your clothes or in your luggage. They have become a major concern in the area. I highly recommend asking your pest inspector to look for bed bugs.

Please call if you have any questions.

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