



**Nature's Element**

# WEB OUT

## SCOPE OF SERVICE

### SPIDER MANAGEMENT

#### INTRODUCTION

Spiders are primarily beneficial, so their activities should be encouraged in the garden and areas away from the house. Prevention should begin before spider populations become too numerous or before certain venomous spiders invade the structure. The best approach to controlling spiders in and around the home is to start an integrated program early that includes inspection, prevention, exclusion and sanitation.

#### INSPECTION

Inspection is the beginning point. Spider infestations may be in the form of web makers that create webs on both the inside and exterior of structures, and ground predators that may crawl into structures looking for insect prey. Some of the web spiders found in many parts of the country are cellar spiders, funnel spiders, black widows and brown recluse spiders. Some of the ground predators are the wolf spider and jumping spider.

Inspect the exterior of the structure not only for present spider populations, but also for areas of potential harborage, including uncut grass or shrubs next to the foundation, stacked wood or other debris or old webs around eaves, doors or windows. Spiders also need a food source, so inspect for any insect populations or conducive conditions that may increase insect populations around the exterior. Eliminating potential habitats and harborages early in the season reduces offspring and makes spider control more manageable. Look for cracks and other entry points that may allow spider access into the structure.

Spiders can do well if allowed to overwinter inside structures, so do a thorough inspection indoors to determine present conditions, including visible spiders and webs. Storage rooms, basements, garages and crawl spaces should not be overlooked.

Question the property owner or resident about spider sightings and possible concerns with any service you will perform. Always give the customer full and complete information on your service protocols before beginning service.



*Wolf Spider*



*Funnel Spider*



*Cellar Spider*

## **PREVENTION EXCLUSION AND SANITATION**

Spiders gain access to houses and other structures through cracks and other openings. They also can be introduced on items like firewood, plants and stored items. To prevent spiders from entering into the home, seal cracks and crevices in the foundation. Caulk around windows and doors. Remove all debris next to the foundation and make sure shrubs and trees are trimmed away from the structure to prevent protective harborage. Make sure all window screens are intact and if not, suggest repair. Inspect firewood and other material brought into the interior of the structure. Web removal is also important and is discussed below.

## **CUSTOMER COOPERATION**

How can customers help themselves and assist in the control program?

*Indoors:* Regular vacuuming or sweeping of windows, the corners in each room, closets, pantries, basements, crawl spaces and other low traffic areas helps remove spiders and their webs. Vacuuming can be very effective because spiders cannot survive this process, and it also aides in web removal.

*In storage areas:* Place boxes away from the walls to allow for cleaning and reducing harborage. Tape boxes to seal and prevent entry. Vacuum under chairs or other stored items with open bottoms. Discard vacuum cleaner bags after use. Eliminate clutter in basements, garages, sheds and other storage areas. This helps prevent spider population from getting established indoors.

*Outdoors:* Reduce excessive vegetation including shrubbery and high grass next to the structure. Change exterior lighting to help reduce the insect population used as food. Replace lighting with bulbs that have less attractiveness to insects (such as yellow bulbs or sodium vapor lights – these lights produce fewer of the ultraviolet rays attractive to insects) or by installing motion detector light systems that only come on when a vehicle or person disrupts the detector switch.



## **WEB REMOVAL**

Next, apply **Web Out™** to all webs and to surfaces that connect the webs to the structure. Web Out is a U.S. EPA 25(b) exempt minimum risk pesticide not subject to federal registration requirements because its ingredients, both active and inert, are demonstrably safe for its intended use. Web Out spray will kill spiders on contact to reduce active populations. Web Out applications on surfaces will aide in the removal of spider webs using a “Webster” or broom cleaning device. Web Out also helps prevent new spider web formation by inhibiting the adherence of new webs to treated surfaces if a new spider population tries to get established. Web Out is ready to use, but should be shaken well before each use. You can apply by spray or sponge, or apply using a Webster or other brush. Once applied, simply clean away the webs with a Webster, broom, sponge or brush. One quart of Web Out will cover approximately 200 square feet. Web Out will help prevent web formation for up to 30 to 60 days outdoors depending on weather exposure.



## **THE USE OF CONTROL PRODUCTS AND BAITS**

Pest control of spiders may also require targeted applications of an EPA registered pesticide. Using **Fireback® Bedbug & Insect Spray**, target each spider in its web, crack or crevice using the pin stream applicator tip. If the spider retreats to its hiding place, concentrate the pin stream spray into the cavity. The application may provide some residual control for spiders, but also works well by killing and providing residual control for insects that may act as a food source for spider populations. Additional application of baits such as **Niban® Granular Bait** can be used around the exterior of structures to reduce insect populations and thus reduce potential food sources for a variety of spiders.



## **BOAT MARINAS**

Spiders and their webs can be of major concern in boat marinas. Not only do the webs create an unattractive and messy surface, but the activity of the spiders also leaves fecal droppings on the boats, understandably upsetting boat owners. This problem can be remedied by an application of Web Out on the infested surfaces. The application will kill the spiders on contact and help with removal of the webs by a Webster or broom. The application will also help prevent new web attachment and development by new spider populations for 30-60 days depending on exposure to the elements. Web Out has no restrictions for application over water.

## **FOLLOW-UP INSPECTIONS AND TREATMENTS**

Spider populations can return after treatment when young spiders come in on the wind or with additional insect populations becoming available as food sources. Continue to inspect location entry points into the structure and seal any openings. Look for an increase in insect populations around the structure and treat with Niban Granular Bait. Look for any additional spider populations and webs, treat with Web Out and clean areas of webs. Continue to educate the customer about sanitation, cleaning and lighting.

Remember, spiders are generally very beneficial but can become a pest when populations around a structure become high and webbing becomes unsightly. A well planned, integrated program – started *early* – delivers the best results.

Contact Nisus Corporation for additional information.



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