

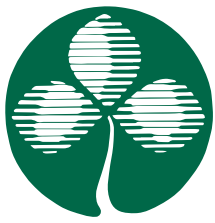


THE HOLIDAY PEST *Survival Guide:*

Your Essential Guide to Holiday
and Winter Pest Risks



JPMcHale
Pest Management, LLC
AN ANTICIMEX COMPANY



JP McHale
Pest Management, LLC
AN ANTICIMEX COMPANY

A message from Jim McHale

Dear Valued Client,

On behalf of the entire JP McHale team, I hope you enjoyed a Healthy and Happy Thanksgiving! As we move full speed ahead into this festive holiday season, I want to express our sincere gratitude for you — our clients, your families, and the communities we proudly serve. Your loyalty, trust, and kindness mean the world to us, and we are truly honored that you have given us this opportunity to protect your homes and businesses.

In the spirit of the holidays, we've created ***The Holiday Pest Survival Guide***, a helpful resource highlighting the unique pest risks that arise this time of year, along with tips to keep your home and business safeguarded. From little-known hazards hidden in holiday décor and fresh-cut trees, to the seasonal surge of pests attracted by all the extra food and treats, this guide outlines what to watch for and how to prevent issues before they start.

It is our holiday wish and priority to equip our clients, families and friends with the information you'll need to avoid pest problems, so you can fully enjoy the magic of the season — the glowing lights, festive gatherings, delicious food and treats, and cherished moments with family and friends.

As always, our JP McHale team is ready to respond promptly to any pest-related concerns that may arise.

***Wishing all celebrating Hanukkah eight peaceful, joy-filled nights
and a Happy Hanukkah (with no scurrying behind the walls!)***

and

***Wishing all who celebrate Christmas a Merry "Pestmas"
and a truly silent night — free of unwanted guests.***

To all our clients, friends and families, we wish everyone a very Happy, Healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Jim McHale, CEO

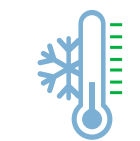
THE HOLIDAY PEST *Survival Guide:*

A helpful resource highlighting the unique pest risks that arise throughout the winter months.

During the bustling holiday season, pests can pose serious health risks beyond mere annoyance. They carry bacteria, allergens, and pathogens that can threaten your family's health and well-being just when your home is most active.

While it might seem like pests vanish once the cold sets in and the first snow falls, winter is actually the time when they're at their busiest, inside your home. The combination of warmth, increased food waste, stored holiday decorations that provide hiding and nesting spots, and live Christmas trees that harbor thousands of insects creates an environment ripe for pest activity. This elevated risk is compounded by the influx of guests, which heightens the chances of pest introductions and infestations.

CONDITIONS THAT HEIGHTEN PEST ACTIVITY AND HEALTH RISKS



COLD TEMPERATURES

Indoor pests increase exposure to allergens, droppings, and bacteria, leading to asthma flareups, illness, and poor air quality.



HOLIDAY COOKING AND FOOD STORAGE

Rodents, cockroaches, and pantry pests (moths and beetles) contaminate food with harmful bacteria (e.g., Salmonella and E. coli), increasing the risk of foodborne illnesses during holiday meals.



STORED DECORATIONS AND LIVE TREES

Boxes and holiday greenery can harbor mites, beetles, and spiders, triggering allergy flare-ups and contaminating communal surfaces.



FIREWOOD AND WARMTH SOURCES

Moisture-loving pests like termites and spiders can pose structural risks and deliver venomous bites in family gathering areas.



OPEN DOORS AND FREQUENT GUESTS

Increased door traffic allows entry for rodents, flies, and hitchhiking pests (including bed bugs), increasing disease spread and infestations.

WHAT THIS *Survival Guide* COVERS

- ✓ The top winter pests and their health risks
- ✓ Reasons for increased pest activity during the holidays
- ✓ High-risk hotspots within the home
- ✓ Initial signs of pest activity
- ✓ Actionable steps to safeguard your family and guests
- ✓ How JP McHale protects your home during the holiday season



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TOP *Winter* **PESTS**

How to **Keep Them Out**
of Your Holiday Celebrations

RODENTS (MICE & RATS)



WHY RODENTS SURGE DURING THE HOLIDAYS:

Rodents are among the most common winter intruders. They can squeeze through gaps as small as a dime and quickly take refuge in attics, walls, and garages. Warm kitchens and baking goods make homes particularly inviting during this season, leading to food contamination, chewing on wires (a significant fire hazard), and rapid reproduction.



HEALTH RISKS:

Rodents can spread serious illnesses such as hantavirus, salmonellosis, and leptospirosis through their droppings, urine, and saliva. They also carry allergens that can cause sneezing, itching, and asthma attacks.



HOLIDAY HOTSPOTS:

- Attics and crawl spaces
- Behind walls and appliances
- Basements and storage rooms
- Garages and utility spaces



SIGNS OF ACTIVITY:

- Tiny droppings near food areas
- Chew marks on packaging or wires
- Scratching noises behind walls
- Shredded fabric, insulation, or paper



PREVENTION TIPS:

- Store holiday baking ingredients in sealed containers.
- Keep decorations in sealed bins (avoid cardboard).
- Wipe counters promptly after baking.
- Seal exterior cracks and openings.

JP McHale Pest Management Solution:

Our **SMART Digital Rodent Control** provides round-the-clock monitoring. Strategically installed sensors in basements, crawl spaces, and key access points throughout your home ensure you receive immediate alerts for any pest activity. When activity is detected, we respond promptly to keep your home pest-free.

WILDLIFE INTRUDERS

(RACCOONS, CHIPMUNKS, SQUIRRELS, ETC.)



WHY WILDLIFE SURGE DURING HOLIDAYS:

As temperatures drop, wildlife, like raccoons, chipmunks, and squirrels, search for warm, protected places to nest, often taking refuge in attics, chimneys, or crawl spaces. During the holidays, the enticing scents of festive meals, overflowing garbage, and the warmth from holiday lights and fireplaces draw them into homes. Once inside, they can cause significant damage by chewing wires, tearing insulation, and contaminating surfaces.



HEALTH RISKS:

Wildlife entering your home can introduce several health concerns. Raccoons, chipmunks, and squirrels may spread illnesses such as leptospirosis and giardiasis through their urine and feces. These wildlife species can also carry ticks that transmit diseases. Raccoons carry additional risks, including rabies and Baylisascaris procyonis (raccoon roundworm), a parasite harmful to humans.



HOLIDAY HOTSPOTS:

- Attics and chimneys
- Garages and crawl spaces
- Rooflines, vents, and soffits
- Garbage bins after holiday meals



SIGNS OF ACTIVITY:

- Scratching or scurrying noises overhead, especially at night
- Damage to roofing, vents, or insulation
- Tipped-over garbage cans or torn trash bags
- Tracks, droppings, or strong odors near entry points



PREVENTION TIPS:

- Keep garbage bins tightly sealed, particularly after large holiday feasts.
- Store firewood at least 20 feet away from the home to prevent access to the roof.
- Install chimney caps and vent covers.
- Trim tree branches that touch or hang over the roof.
- Regularly inspect attics and rooflines for signs of damage or potential entry points

JP McHale Pest Management Solution:

Our [Home Shield Exclusion System](#) is the most effective way to keep wildlife away from your home. This science-backed, all-natural solution seals your home from top to bottom, providing comprehensive protection against wildlife intruders.

COCKROACHES



WHY COCKROACHES SURGE DURING THE HOLIDAYS:

Cockroaches, known to spread bacteria and trigger asthma symptoms, thrive in warm indoor environments, making kitchens particularly attractive during the holiday cooking season. The aromas of roasting turkeys, simmering sauces, and the abundance of festive leftovers provide these pests with ample food sources, increasing their likelihood of infestation.



HEALTH RISKS:

Cockroaches pose significant health threats, especially in homes with children or individuals with allergies. Their droppings, saliva, and shed body parts can trigger allergic reactions and asthma symptoms. Additionally, their capacity to contaminate food and surfaces exposes families to harmful bacteria and pathogens.



HOLIDAY HOTSPOTS:

- Kitchens and pantries
- Under sinks and near appliances
- Boiler rooms and laundry areas
- Around drains and baseboards



PREVENTION TIPS:

- Empty garbage regularly, especially during busy cooking days.
- Fix any leaks to eliminate moisture, which attracts cockroaches.
- Do not leave dirty dishes overnight after hosting gatherings.

JP McHale Pest Management Solution:

We offer customized [Cockroach Treatment](#) plans tailored to your home's specific risks and needs. Our expert technicians identify the source of the infestation and employ advanced, targeted methods to eliminate roaches and prevent their return.

SPIDERS



WHY SPIDERS SURGE DURING THE HOLIDAYS:

As the weather cools, spiders seek warmth and follow their prey indoors. They often hitch onto holiday decorations, fresh-cut trees, wreaths, and garland. Inside, they may spin webs in warm corners of basements or other sheltered areas, and their presence can indicate hidden pest activity.



HEALTH RISKS:

Most encounters with spiders are harmless, but bites can cause mild allergic reactions such as redness or swelling. However, venomous species like black widows and brown recluse spiders can cause severe pain, muscle cramps, nausea, and tissue damage, requiring immediate medical attention.



HOLIDAY HOTSPOTS:

- Corners of rooms and ceilings
- Boxes of ornaments and lights
- Around holiday greenery or trees
- Basements, attics, and garages



PREVENTION TIPS:

- Shake out and inspect live Christmas trees and wreaths outside before bringing them indoors.
- Wipe down and inspect stored decorations.
- Vacuum corners and cobwebs regularly.
- Keep areas clutter-free to reduce potential hiding spots.

JP McHale Pest Management Solution:

We provide effective [Spider Control Solutions](#) designed to keep your home pest-free. Our experts will identify entry points, eliminate existing infestations, and implement long-term prevention strategies to deter spiders from returning.

PANTRY PESTS



WHY PANTRY PESTS SURGE DURING THE HOLIDAYS:

The holiday baking season brings an abundance of flour, sugar, grains, and nuts, attracting pantry pests (like moths and beetles). These insects can quickly infest dry goods, spoiling ingredients and holiday treats.



HEALTH RISKS:

While pantry pests typically do not spread disease, they can contaminate food with droppings, shed body parts, and secretions. This contamination may lead to spoilage and, in some cases, introduce microbes that could cause stomach discomfort or foodborne illnesses if consumed.



HOLIDAY HOTSPOTS:

- Pantries and baking shelves
- Open bags of flour, cereal, or pet food
- Stored bulk ingredients



PREVENTION TIPS:

- Use airtight containers for storing dry ingredients.
- Inspect packages for damage before use.
- Regularly clean cabinets and shelves.

JP McHale Pest Management Solution:

We offer expert [Stored Product Pest Protection](#) for pantry pests that contaminate food and grain products. Our specialists conduct comprehensive inspections to identify infestation sources, using advanced detection methods like pheromone lures. Once identified, we remove or treat infested items to eliminate all stages of the infestation and safeguard your home against future outbreaks.



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HOLIDAY PEST *Prevention Checklist*



☒ **Exclusion**

- Install door sweeps and weather stripping
- Seal gaps around pipes, vents, and wiring
- Repair cracks in siding or masonry



☒ **Sanitation and Food Safety Storage**

- Store food and baking ingredients in airtight containers
- Keep trash containers sealed and emptied regularly
- Shake out live greenery outdoors before decorating
- Store decorations in plastic bins (not cardboard)
- Keep living areas decluttered to reduce hiding spots



☒ **Moisture Control**

- Fix leaks and improve ventilation
- Use dehumidifiers in the basement and crawl spaces



☒ **Inspection**

- Check attics, basements, and pantries frequently
- Monitor for droppings, gnaw marks, or webbing
- Schedule a professional inspection at the first sign of activity



Protect Your Family's Health All Winter Long

Winter is a season when pests move closer to people, increasing the likelihood of significant health risks. With JP McHale's [HomeShield Exclusion System](#) and [SMART Digital Rodent Control](#), our experts provide proactive, round-the-clock protection to ensure your home remains pest-free throughout the holiday and winter season, into the spring, and all year long.

Call JP McHale Pest Management to schedule your winter inspection today!



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(866) 280-1667
nopests.com