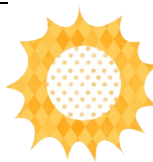


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Your Quarterly Newsletter

Neighborhood News

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WOODLAKE COMMUNITY



Author: Peri Worrell for Woodlake News April 2024

Termite Alert: All Units Affected Your COA protecting all of us

On April 1, 2024, Eric with Haskell Termite and Pest Control made a speech at a special workshop of the Woodlake Association’s (COA) board of directors. His last inspection, in early March, revealed a termite swarm at Unit 28. Two subterranean-termite colonies were living in wooden posts in the ground in the unit’s backyard; wood in contact with the ground is a serious risk factor for subterranean termites. They are the most common type in Florida. The two colonies were successfully treated.

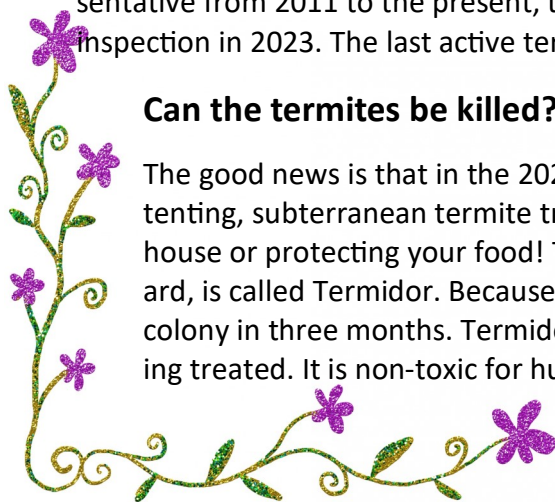
On further inspection, signs of infestation were found near buildings 9 (2066), 3 (2054), and 14 (2076). A handout about subterranean termites was given out. They can spread 300 feet from an infested location, so all the buildings in Woodlake are in danger and will require treatment. “The sooner you do it, the better. I wouldn’t waste any time getting it done,” Eric said.

Longstanding pest control contract

Haskell has been providing pest-control services to Woodlake for decades. Eric, who has been our representative from 2011 to the present, told us there were no termite colonies observed at their last routine inspection in 2023. The last active termite treatment was many years ago, and that type of treatment is

Can the termites be killed?

The good news is that in the 2020s, although drywood and dampwood termite elimination still needs tenting, subterranean termite treatments no longer require tenting: No temporary move out of your house or protecting your food! The type of treatment used now, which Eric says is the industry standard, is called Termidor. Because Termidor is carried from termite to termite, it kills all the termites in a colony in three months. Termidor is injected into the ground all around the concrete slab of the building treated. It is non-toxic for humans and animals, and harmless to pets.



IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION



Ameri-Tech

ameritechcompanies.com

T.C. Sayles

727-726-8000 ext. 273

Plumber

Dunedin Plumbing

dunedinplumbing.com

727-734-2879

Plumbing by Gus

plumbingbygus.com

727-734-8804

Electrician

Dunedin Electric

dunedinelectric.com

727-773-1622

David Nardin Electric

727-418-5674

Pest Control

Soles

727-466-1888

Natur Zone

pestcontrolsolutionflorida.com

941-378-3334

Painters

Al Leach Painting

alleachpainting.com

727-447-4004

Handyman & Janitorial

Ignacio Riveras Services & Repair (Chili)

727-686-9511

Cesar's Handy Man Service

845-803-7185

AWO : 727-709-4895

Locksmith

Countryside Locksmith

cslock.com

727-796-0292

Air Conditioning Install & Repair

Cool Wizard

coolwizardairconditioning.com

727-542-6178

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Your cooperation is needed

It is very important that the workers treating for termites have access to the entire perimeter of the slab of every unit of every building. This means that they will need to enter every backyard, so owners or residents will need to leave the back gates of their units unlocked while treatment is ongoing. Owners will be notified by email and paper leaflets, the COA Board said. Landlord owners should inform tenants. The entire treatment process is expected to take four to five days. If any part of the foundation is skipped, treatment would be incomplete. It would not kill the termites. For this reason, Eric regretfully advises us that he will have to cut the lock of any unit that leaves their gate locked on treatment days.

The cost

While a written proposal will be needed and approved by the Board, Eric said the costs of the one-time treatment will be around \$30,000. When divided among the 88 units of Woodlake, that is less than \$350 per unit. Eric told us that payment plans are available. The Board briefly discussed it, and the overall feeling seemed optimistic that it could be worked into our budget, hopefully without need of a special assessment. This will be addressed at a future meeting.

How termite treatment warranty works

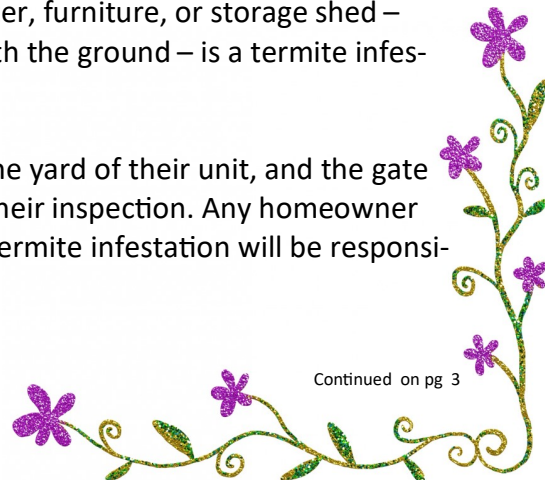
Once treatment is complete, Haskell will have a protection contract with the Woodlake COA at a cost of a few thousand dollars annually. If any termites infest us, Haskell will re-treat the affected building and repair any termite damage.

One caveat: Termites live underground. They require moisture, so unless there is a plumbing leak or other wetness inside the structure, they must return to earth, while they eat wood. Therefore, any item made of wood in direct contact with the ground **voids the termite warranty**.

Homeowners should already know that any structure or addition to their unit must be approved by the Board. This is a good example of why we do that: any wood post, planter, furniture, or storage shed – anything made of wood in contact with the ground – is a termite infestation waiting to happen.

If a homeowner puts wood items in the yard of their unit, and the gate is locked, Haskell can't find it during their inspection. Any homeowner whose unit has such items causing a termite infestation will be responsible for the cost of treating the pests.

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Be vigilant for termites

It is every owner's responsibility to the community to report any sightings of termite damage, termite swarms, or individual termites. A photo is essential to make correct identification.

Haskell does not enter individual units to inspect for termites. Eric mentions that wood indoor elements can be damaged by termites brought in in wood furniture. Since termites live in the dirt, they can travel into a building via a crack in the foundation, and once they're inside, they may travel vertically or horizontally via cracks in the cement firewalls between units.

All things considered

Woodlake is lucky to have classic 1970s post-and-beam style homes in the midst of one of Pinellas's green oases. Because of our buildings' architecture, we are vulnerable to termites. Fortunately, they're treatable! The tips above should help us all get through the treatment with little inconvenience.

[For more information about termites, the State of Arizona has a scientific article on their website: https://cales.arizona.edu/apmc/docs/9%20Structural%20F.pdf.](https://cales.arizona.edu/apmc/docs/9%20Structural%20F.pdf)

Termites or Flying Ants What the Heck is the Difference

Termites and flying ants are often mistaken for one another due to their similar appearance, especially during their swarming seasons. However, despite their resemblance, there are key differences between these two insects.

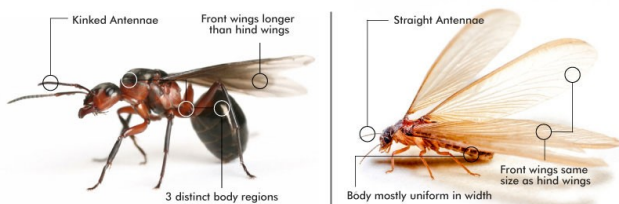
Firstly, their body structures differ. Termites have straight, bead-like antennae, while flying ants have elbowed antennae. Additionally, termites have broad waists and straight, uniform bodies, whereas flying ants possess a distinct narrowing at their waist and often have a more segmented body.

Another notable distinction lies in their wings. Both insects have two pairs of wings, but termite wings are equal in length and extend beyond their abdomen, while flying ants have wings of unequal length, with the front pair being longer than the hind pair. Furthermore, termite wings are fragile and shed quickly after swarming, while flying ant wings are more robust and are retained even after swarming.

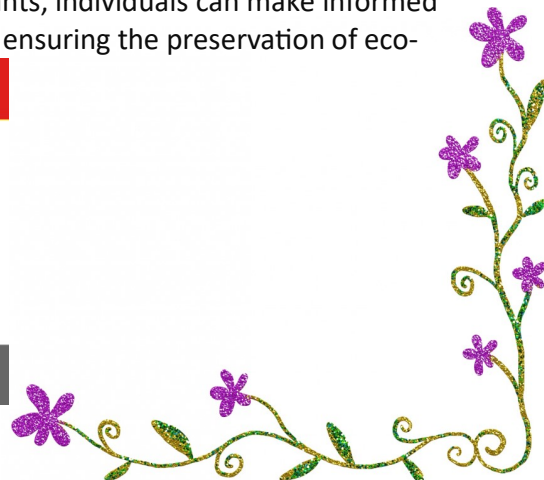
Behaviorally, termites and flying ants also differ. Termites are notorious for their destructive feeding habits, consuming wood and causing structural damage to buildings. In contrast, flying ants are not typically destructive and primarily serve to establish new colonies during their mating flights.

Understanding these differences is crucial for effective pest management and control. Misidentification can lead to improper treatment methods, potentially exacerbating infestations or causing unnecessary harm to beneficial insects. By being able to distinguish between termites and flying ants, individuals can make informed decisions regarding pest control strategies, thereby minimizing damage and ensuring the preservation of ecosystems.

SPOTTING THE DIFFERENCE



FLYING ANT VS TERMITE SWARMER



Woodlake Scene of FBI Arrest

Complete story: <https://www.fox13news.com>

An FBI raid happened in Clearwater on Monday, linked to the riot at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. Victor Sean Dennison, a 49-year-old man from California, was arrested at the Woodlake Condominiums on Sunset Point Road. He didn't show up for trial in California, June 2023, leading to an arrest warrant.

Dennison was taken to Pinellas County Jail on Monday and now faces more charges, in addition to the one related to the January 6th riot. These new charges include violent entry and disorderly conduct on the Capitol grounds. In his first court appearance on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, in federal court, Dennison claimed "sovereign citizenship," which means he believes the government's laws don't apply to him.

Had Dennison attended his trial in California, he might have received probation or a shorter sentence, according to Anthony Rickman, a Tampa Bay attorney. Despite being involved in the riot, Dennison wasn't accused of violent acts against Capitol police or partaking in the uprising. Rickman described him as a minor offender who typically receives probation or a brief jail term.

Pictures submitted by Steven & Peri Worrell



From On Line News Source



Open Board Seat

The board is expecting that there will be an open seat on the board of directors in the near future. If you are interested, please email Woodlake News (woodlakenews@gmail.com) with your name, unit number, email address, and telephone. A director will get in touch with you.

Please consider coming forward. The board needs you and our community needs you!!



Meeting Tidbits

- Marina Briganti joins the board
- Delinquencies are up
- Tree Trimming to begin shortly
- Video camera security discussed
- Florida Condo Insurance Guest Speaker invited
- Drainage issue discussed
- Landscaping & Irrigation—Cost vs. Service Provided
- Termites Control Companies Guest Speakers (see article)
- Plumbing Issues and Costs—discussed budget for camera'ing and pipe linings
- High Cost of Dumpster Issues will impact fees

