

## German Cockroach Preparation Guidelines:

### Before Treatment

- **Plan to vacate during the initial service for 2-3 hours.** If the home cannot be vacated, we can only treat the kitchen and bathroom with an agreement that the occupants will remain out of the treated areas until the spray has dried.
- **Discontinue applying over-the-counter pesticides.**
- Perform a general cleaning of infested rooms. Clear clutter.
- Remove and dispose of infested items stored in cabinets (upper and lower), pantries, drawers, and storage bins in kitchen and bathroom areas. Place these items in plastic bags. Seal each bag and place it outside.
- Vacuum all areas as you remove the items. This will eliminate roach feces and carcasses. You can even vacuum up live roaches. Immediately empty the vacuum bag into a sealed container- outside.
- Take everything off the stove. **Clean the stove of any grease/ food debris.**
- Pick up and remove pet food dishes and food not in sealed containers.
- Take all garbage outdoors and place it away from the structure.
- Clear all counter space, except microwave ovens, blenders, and other electric utensils. Knife blocks should be left on the counter as roaches hide in them.
- Clean behind and under the refrigerator, stove, and other home appliances.
- **Repair any plumbing leaks before arrival.**

### After Treatment

- **Make sure all liquid pesticide applications are dry before reoccupying the area.**
- Clean up all dead roaches, preferably by using paper towels. Remove all egg cases. 30 – 45 eggs are in each egg case.
- Wipe down food preparation surfaces before use.
- **Take garbage out every day.** Keep outdoor receptacles away from home.
- Do not leave pet food or water in a feeding dish overnight. Once the dish is opened, transfer pet food to a tightly sealed container.
- Run the dishwasher regularly.
- **Do a clean sweep of water every night.** Empty and dry the sink and counters. Do not leave moist towels and sponges in infested areas.
- Get rid of all boxes that store food. You are better off with the cereal bag than the box. Roaches love boxes, even ones that appear sealed. They love to get under the flaps, which is ideal for laying eggs.
- Keep food in tightly sealed containers or Ziplock bags.
- Clean all spilled foods from floors and countertops. We place baits in certain areas for the roaches to eat. If you leave even small crumbs, they will not eat the bait. **Do not allow oil/ grease to accumulate on and around the stove.**
- Discard any cardboard boxes immediately.

