



Ants in Wisconsin

Carpenter, Field, Pavement, Pharaoh, Thief

Wisconsin is home to several types of ants that range in behavior and appearance, and it's a problem people can have all year long. Identifying the type of ant is a necessary step in order to treat the issue correctly.

	Carpenter	Field	Pavement	Pharaoh	Thief
Appearance					
Description	Black/dark brown 1/4-1/2" Yellow hairs on abdomen	Black and red 1/8-1/4" Rounded front and backside	Dark red/brown or black 1/8" Unique, long, raised arms	Yellow or light brown 1/16"	Light yellow 1/32" Skinny
Food Source	Other insects (dead or alive), honeydew, sugar, grease	Honeydew, dead insects, sweets, spilled liquids	Fruit, honeydew, seeds, insects, meats, bread, and cheese	Sugary foods, honey, grease, spills	Sugary foods
Habitat	Indoors/outdoors, in decaying moist wood, in forests or woods	Nests in fields, yards, along fences, near trees, and by houses	Areas with minimal vegetation, along roads, sidewalks, patios, and driveways	Heated buildings, hospitals, schools, apartments	Near other large colonies of ants, behind woodwork, such as baseboards, windowsills, and under flooring
Other Facts	Tunnels through wood to build nests, leaving behind piles of sawdust Can cause major damage to buildings Often main nest is in a tree, satellite nests are found in homes	Most common ant in Wisconsin	They have a stinger that causes discomfort when stung but are not dangerous	The queen ant can lay up to 400 eggs at once	Steals food from larger groups of ants (how they got their name) One of the smallest ants
sometimes referred to as a sugar ant					

Do It Yourself Tips	When to Call a Professional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID the ant in order to choose the correct bait • Erase their trails with vinegar and water • Trim shrubs near home to eliminate easy entry • Apply spray around entry points on building exterior to create a barrier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If over the counter products don't work, call a professional • If carpenter ants are identified, call a professional before they can cause damage • A service specialist will not only eliminate the current issue, but will use exclusion to prevent a recurrence • Call Batzner at 800.878.2110 for a free estimate