

PROBLEMS WITH ANTS?


MANAGE SEASONAL ANTS LIKE A PRO. NO ANTEATER NEEDED.

- 1 Don't use ant sprays.** They kill a small fraction of ants and expose your family and pets to pesticides. Outdoor ant sprays are the top source of creek pesticide pollution in the Bay Area.
- 2 Remove what the ants are after** (water, food) and block entry points temporarily with petroleum jelly or tape. Clean up ants, food and spills with soapy water.
- 3 Caulk holes and cracks.** This is the most effective measure for permanently ant proofing your home.
- 4 If you can't block or find an entry point, place an ant bait station** in an out-of-the-way spot on the line the ants have been following. Remove the bait station when ants have disappeared so you don't attract more ants into your house. Visit ourwaterourworld.org for the best and safest ant bait products.
- 5 Tolerate ants outside when you can.** Ants serve an important function in soil aeration and garden cleanup.
- 6 Ants in pet dishes?** Partially fill a wide, shallow container with soapy water and place pet bowls in the water. The soapy moat breaks water surface tension and will drown and deter ants.
- 7 Ants in potted houseplants:** Move the plant outdoors and place in a bucket filled with water that comes an inch below the rim of the pot. Use a stick to make a dry escape bridge. The ants will carry their white-colored young to safety. When no more ants emerge, drain the pot and return it to the house.
- 8 Need expert help?** Visit ourwaterourworld.org for quick factsheets about the most common pest problems. Use the free Ask-the-Expert service to speak with a professional for specific advice. **Want to just hire a service?** Visit ecowisecertified.org for a pest control provider who understands how to safely stop reoccurring pest problems.

ATTEND A WORKSHOP! Learn about pest control, pollinators, irrigation and composting. Most classes are free. Visit cityofpaloalto.org/workshops for details.

WWW.CLEANBAY.ORG
650.329.2122

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