



Integrated Pest Management Best Practices For **MULTIFAMILY HOUSING FACILITIES**

Proper pest control is imperative to the success of multifamily housing facilities. Pests that frequently invade these facilities like rodents, cockroaches and bed bugs are capable of transmitting numerous diseases to residents and employees, infesting personal belongings and contaminating food.

Effective pest control in multifamily housing facilities requires a partnership between a licensed pest control company and a facility manager to implement an integrated pest management (IPM) plan. This method of pest control focuses on three basic techniques: inspecting for pests, identifying pests and treatment by pest control professionals. IPM plans are most effective when managers take proactive steps to prevent infestations in their facilities.

To help keep pests out of your multifamily housing facilities, Franklin Pest Solutions recommends the following tips:

INTERIOR

- Inspect for signs of an infestation, like rodent droppings, especially in undisturbed areas, including closets, stairwells, storage rooms and along floorboards
- Seal cracks and gaps in walls, floors, openings around or inside cabinets, around plumbing, wall outlets and switch plates
- Ensure communal kitchens and recreation areas are clean by wiping down counter tops and sweeping floors to remove crumbs and residue from spills
- Clean high-volume communal areas daily, such as lobbies, fitness centers and entertainment rooms where trash is more likely to build up
- Schedule regular inspections with a qualified pest control company that is experienced in working with multifamily housing facilities to help identify vulnerabilities, survey for, and control issues using an IPM approach

EXTERIOR

- Dispose of garbage regularly in sealed containers and schedule regular garbage pick-up
- Keep tree branches and shrubbery well-trimmed and away from the building
- Install a gravel perimeter around the building to help discourage vegetation growth that could harbor pests
- Eliminate any areas of standing water, as mosquitoes only need half an inch of water to breed
- Replace weather-stripping and repair loose mortar around the building's foundation and windows
- Ensure your property has proper drainage at the foundation; install gutters or diverts, which will channel water away from the building