

## Boxelder Bugs

Boxelder bugs may invade buildings, especially during the warm days of autumn, to



seek shelter sites for overwintering. They are attracted to lights and will readily fly in open doors and windows.

Indoors, these bugs produce a foul odor when crushed and may stain curtains with fecal matter. Outdoors, they can be found clustering in large numbers on the sides of trees, buildings and other structures.

Large populations are often correlated with long, hot, dry summers.

During warm winter and spring days, they may become active, moving from their hiding places into living spaces. Although they do not cause serious damage to buildings, clothing, food or humans, populations are annoying.



### Control Measures

Eliminate potential hiding places such as piles of boards, rocks, leaves, grass and other debris near your the home. Rake leaves and grass away from the foundation in a six- to ten-foot-wide strip, especially on the south and west sides of the structure. Be sure to caulk and close openings where boxelder bugs can enter the house such as around light fixtures, doors and windows.

