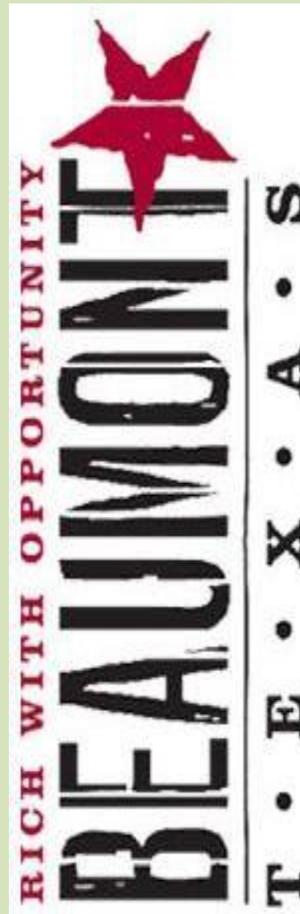


Pesticide Alternatives

Below are a number of alternative solutions to controlling insects in the home and garden. For more information on alternative pest control measures, consult your county Extension Agent, a knowledgeable nursery worker, or library. Also don't forget the abundance of information available on the internet which is where many of these methods were discovered.

- **FLEAS:** Feed pets garlic tablets, vitamin B, or brewer's yeast
- **APHIDS:** Spray plants with soapy water and rinse after aphids have died. Plant garlic, chives, petunias, and nasturtiums in the garden or try introducing ladybugs or lacewings.
- **CUTWORMS:** Sink paper cups (with bottoms removed) around seedlings to block cutworms.
- **FLIES:** Set bowls of mint sprigs or ground basil leaves where flies enter home.
- **MOTHS:** Place cedar blocks, small bags of dried lemon peels, dried lavender, bay leaves, whole cloves, dried rosemary, mint, or whole peppercorns with clothes.



For more information, contact:

**City of Beaumont Public Works
Department
(409) 880-3725**

Pesticides

*A guide to safe and responsible use
of pesticides in the home and
garden.*



Pest infestations are a common occurrence in the lawn and garden but treatment for such infestations involve several steps before rushing out and purchasing the latest chemical product on the market.

It may be that after carefully assessing the situation you come to the realization that the pest can be eliminated without the need for chemicals. This is, of course, the ideal scenario since in addition to being a potential health hazard if used improperly; pesticides are a major contributor to stormwater pollution.

Once released into the environment, all it takes is a little rain and soon the chosen product is no longer doing wonders on your lawn but is instead flowing through the storm drain en route to the nearest body of water. Once there it poses a potential threat to not only fish and other aquatic wildlife but also to humans.

Be sure to use pesticides according to the manufacturer's directions for safe use and proper disposal.



What is a Pesticide?

The word “pesticide” is a general term which refers to any substance or blend of substances that destroys pests or prevents them from causing damage.

There are many types of pesticides: insecticides control insects, fungicides control fungi, rodenticides control rodents, and herbicides control weeds and so forth.

Pest Control Tactics

- The first step in controlling pests is to identify the intruder. If assistance is needed in this process, consult the county Extension Agent, a garden center, or the library
- Next is determining if the potential threat from the pests demands further action.
- Third, seek out expert advice on ways to handle the pest without using chemicals. It may be as simple as pulling a few weeds, removing the occasional insect by hand from the garden, introducing a beneficial insect to the mix, or a particular planting that repels unwanted insects.
- Once the pest is identified and the proper control method is determined, proceed to rid your home and/or garden of the intruder.

If Chemicals are Necessary

If possible use non-toxic alternatives. Most garden centers carry non-toxic products and remember that the best pesticide is one that provides the maximum reduction of the pest while causing the least amount of damage to the environment. Be sure to follow the directions given on the product label and use only the amount needed for the job. Never use pesticides when there is a chance of rain or strong wind. This can cause the chemicals to be washed into the storm sewer and transported to the nearest waterway.

Storage and Disposal of Pesticides

Pesticides should be stored in a secure location out of the reach of children and pets, and away from food. They should always be stored in their original containers so as to avoid potential misuse or possible harm if later handled in an improper manner.

- Dispose pesticides according to the recommended disposal methods provided on the product label.
- Never pour leftover pesticides down the storm sewer or an inside drain.
- Try giving leftover pesticides to neighbors or donate them to a community organization.