



Ants –The Council will only treat for ants that are actually inside a property at the standard fee.

Description –The black worker garden ant has a black segmented body about 5mm in length. The Queen is about 15mm long and brown in colour.

Further Info – The garden ant will nest in gardens around buildings, under concrete paths etc. They may also nest in the cavity walls of buildings or in the space under the floor of a building.

The garden ant does not carry disease and doesn't bite or sting. During the summer months they can be a nuisance during mating time when large numbers of winged and non-winged ants emerge from the nest. This normally happens in one day, during which all but the successfully mated females die.

Garden Ants produce winged males & females in large numbers usually in July, but they may be seen at anytime in August & September.

In late spring females lay there eggs which hatch into white larvae in about 3 to 4 weeks. The life cycle is complete in two months and in good conditions a nest may last for several years.

How to Treat & Control Measures – The only effective control measure is to find the nest and destroy it. The nest should be unearthed and the ants dowsed with an insecticidal spray. A fly type spray insecticide is usually adequate. These can be purchased at hardware stores, garden centres & supermarkets. The instructions on the containers must be followed carefully.

Where the nest cannot be found and the ants are emerging either inside or outside the property, do the following:

Outside – Purchase ant powder or insecticide & spray in and around the areas from where they are coming from. A lot of the time a repeat treatment is necessary until activity ceases.

Inside – If coming through cracks around skirting boards, windows or doors it is essential to spray insecticide along the length of the wall or all around the window or door to ensure there is a complete band of insecticide. You must use a long lasting effect spray so it will last for up to 3 months.

How the Council will treat – Our Pest Control Officers use a spray treatment – very similar to the instructions above. The room will be safe to go into straight after the treatment.