

Your Home is a Cozy Hideaway

A warm home can fight off the chill of winter, but it also provides a cozy hideaway for pests. The National Pest Management Association (NPMA) estimates that 21 million pests invade homes every winter.

Openings as small as the size of a nickel can become an entryway to your home for mice seeking shelter, warmth and food. Once inside, mice are capable of chewing through walls, electrical wires and plumbing.

NPMA also reports that mice carry and transmit diseases such as Hantavirus and Salmonella. "Diseases are transferred from mice to humans through their urine and droppings," said Greg Baumann, senior scientist of NPMA.

Embark offers a few important measures to prevent pests this winter:

- Seal cracks and holes on the outside of the home, including areas where utilities and pipes enter the home using caulk and/or steel wool
- Screen vents and openings to chimneys



- Keep attics, basements and crawl spaces well ventilated and dry
- Replace loose mortar and weatherstripping around the basement foundation and windows

Signs of an infestation include scampering sounds at night in walls and ceilings, droppings found in undisturbed places and damaged or partially eaten food. If you suspect a pest infestation in your home, please contact us and one of our professionals will inspect and treat any discovered problems.

"Embark captured the details of what needed to be done and ensured it got completed."

*B. Bienk
Houston, Texas*