Keep Halloween Festive ? and Pest-Free: Parshall Pest Control Experts Announces October Pest Preventative Maintenance Procedures for Grand Rapids Residents

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MARNE, MI - October 30, 2024 -
Grand Rapids, Michigan ? Halloween is upon us, and while pumpkins on porches and doorsteps are a delightful seasonal tradition, they can also serve as magnets for unwanted pests. As these pumpkins sit and begin to decay, their organic matter can attract pests ranging from rodents to fruit flies. Pest experts are sounding the alarm on how these festive decorations can turn into a problem if left unchecked.

Parshall Pest Control specialists note, "Pumpkin carving is a cherished activity, but homeowners should be cautious about how these decorations attract pests. Preventing infestations is easier than dealing with the expense and hassle of removing them later.?

Three Pests that Pumpkins Can Attract: Rodents are particularly drawn to the smell of decomposing pumpkins. Their strong sense of smell allows them to detect even the faintest scent of food, and an unguarded pumpkin could turn your porch into a new favorite hangout spot. Parshall experts, point out, ?The

smell of a decomposing pumpkin can lure rodents, especially as the weather turns colder, and they seek shelter and food sources close to homes.?

How to Keep Rodents Away: To prevent rodents from gnawing on pumpkins, ensure that there are no entry points to your home, as these can serve as gateways for curious critters. Sealing cracks with weatherproof caulking and using peppermint or eucalyptus essential oils around pumpkins can act as a natural deterrent. Additionally, placing a motion-activated sprinkler can startle animals and make them less likely to return.

Squirrels are known for their cheeky behavior and appetite, squirrels are drawn to pumpkins as a nutritious snack. "Squirrels are particularly adept at nibbling through pumpkins for the seeds," explains Prashall?s. ?They see these as a ready-made food source, especially as they prepare for winter.?

How to Squirrel-Proof Your Pumpkins: Consider using scents that squirrels dislike, such as peppermint or coffee grounds, sprinkled around the pumpkin. For a more high-tech solution, a motion-activated sprinkler will surprise squirrels and deter them from returning. Raising pumpkins off the ground and placing them on sturdy surfaces can also make access more challenging for these agile climbers.

Fruit Flies are attracted as pumpkins decompose, they emit gases that are irresistible to fruit flies. The longer a pumpkin sits, the more likely it is to attract fruit flies, especially if the pumpkin is near an entryway or open window. Fruit flies not only swarm but may lay eggs on decomposing organic matter, multiplying the problem.

Eliminate Fruit Flies Naturally: To prevent an infestation, place a vinegar trap near the pumpkin by filling a bowl with apple cider vinegar, covering it with plastic wrap, and poking holes in the top. This attracts fruit flies and traps them in the solution. Additionally, small bowls of beer or wine work similarly, luring flies in without the need for chemical sprays.

Additional Tips for Pumpkin Safety: Keeping a pumpkin fresh is key to avoiding pest issues. Avoid carving pumpkins too far in advance, and if possible, bring them indoors at night to extend their freshness. Homeowners should also check their pumpkins regularly for signs of decay. If pumpkins start to look wrinkled or smell fermented, it's time to dispose of them in a compost pile or green bin.

By keeping decorations pest-free, you can enjoy a fun Halloween without the unwanted scare of an infestation. Parshall?s spokesman advises homeowners to stay vigilant: ?Simple steps can make a big difference. By addressing these risks early on, homeowners can enjoy their Halloween festivities without worry for additional pest control services.?

If for any reason one's pumpkin?s pests become haunting, schedule a visit with Parshall Pest Control Experts at https://parshallpestcontrol.com/exterminator-grand-rapids-kent-county.

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Parshall Pest Control

Parshall Pest Control Experts of Grand Rapids, MI are expert professional pest control services in Kent County, MI. Specializing in complete home protection to eliminate biting pests for your custom insect protection plans for ticks, moles, or mosquitos.

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