

## Termite Workshop on May 22

A workshop for homeowners "Everything Homeowners Should Know About Termites and Termite Control" will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Tuesday, May 22, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. These workshops are designed to help homeowners understand termites, termite control options, and become more informed consumers. Highlights include:



- **Termite biology and behavior:**  
- where termites live and how they get into your house
- **Preventing termite damage**
- **Inspecting your home**
- **Understanding treatments:**  
- differences between bait and barrier treatment approaches
- **Understand the termiticide label:**  
- why it is important for homeowners to read the label

- **Termite economics:**  
- why treatments cost so much and what a warranty means
- **Demonstration materials:**  
- termite-damaged wood,  
- application equipment,  
- bait stations
- **Get your questions answered:**  
- presenters will stay as long as needed to answer specific questions



Presenters will include: Barb Ogg, extension educator, Lancaster County, Dennis Ferraro, extension educator, Douglas/Sarpy County, Clyde Ogg, pesticide education specialist, UNL, Tim Creger, pesticide program manager, Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

This workshop will also be held in Columbus (May 10), Omaha (May 15), Auburn (May 17), and Hastings (May 24). Cost of these workshops is \$20 and includes reference materials. Call the Lancaster County Extension Office for more information, 441-7180. (BPO)

## Environmental Focus



## Safely Clean up After Rodents

Eliminating rodents from your home/cabin or other dwelling will decrease your risk for Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome. Follow these standard rodent removal and cleanup guidelines:

- Set spring traps that will kill mice.
- Use rubber gloves and spray the nest or dead rodent until soaked with a household disinfectant solution or three tablespoons of bleach in one gallon of water. Other disinfectants can also be used as directed. Let the area soak thoroughly 10 to 15 minutes.
- Remove the nest or rodent using a long-handled shovel or rubber gloves.
- Double bag the rodent or nest securely with plastic bags and dispose of them in the trash. Persons in rural areas may bury the waste two to three feet deep.
- Clean up the rodent area and traps by spraying with disinfectant solution. Let the area soak for 10 to 15 minutes. While still wearing gloves, wipe up the area with paper towels or rags.

• Double bag all paper towels, rags, and gloves used in the cleanup. Dispose of them in a tightly covered trash container.

• Wash your hands with soap and water after completing the cleanup.

After the rodents are removed, floors, countertops, cabinets and other surfaces should be cleaned with a solution of three tablespoons of household bleach in one gallon of water, or by a commercial disinfectant. Do not sweep floors with a broom, or vacuum, until area has been disinfected.

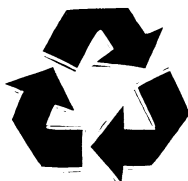
Rugs can be steam cleaned; dirt floors should be sprayed with a disinfectant solution.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/epi/epiindex.htm> (BPO)



## Household Hazardous Waste Collections for 2001

Date	Location
Saturday, April 21	Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) 3140 "N" Street, south parking lot 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Friday, May 18	Hickman, Second and Main 3 to 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 19	Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company 4021 North 56 Street 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, June 23	State Fair Park, parking lot, northwest of Ag Hall Includes latex paint exchange* 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Friday, August 10	Union College, parking lot, 52 and Cooper Streets three blocks south of 52 and Calvert Streets 3 to 7 p.m.
Saturday, August 11	Nebraska Wesleyan University parking lot, 56 and Huntington 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, September 22	Pfizer Animal Health 601 West Cornhusker Highway 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, November 3	State Fair Park (site to be posted) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



### Household Hazardous Waste Collections will take:

Heavy Metals—Wastes containing liquid mercury such as thermometers and thermostats.  
Solvents—Mineral spirits, turpentine, paint strippers and thinners, oil-based paints, varnishes, stains, polishes, and waxes.

Pesticides—Weed killers, garden sprays, wood preservatives, roach powder, rat poisons, etc. (includes EPA-banned chemicals listed below which should *not* be used, such as DDT, chlordane, 2,4,5-T pentachlorophenol, silvex, and PCP).

Items Containing PCB's—Ballasts from old fluorescent fixtures and capacitors from old appliances including radios, motors, and televisions.

Please keep products in the *original* container and keep the label intact. If the label is already destroyed or unreadable, label the products to the best of your knowledge. Open, leaking, or rusted containers should be placed in a clear plastic bag during transport to a collection. Please, **do not mix** chemicals!

### Please Do NOT Bring —

- Latex paint\*
- Fertilizers
- Fluorescent bulbs (recycle)
- Antifreeze (recycle)
- Medicines
- Used oil (recycle)
- Batteries (recycle)
- Explosives and ammunition
- General household trash or business waste



If you have questions on how to dispose of these items, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 441-8040 or refer to the article "Where Wastes Should Go in Lancaster County" in the March 2001 Neblin, page 3.

\*The latex paint exchange only occurs on June 23. Only good, usable latex paint is accepted. Please bring only containers that are at least half full. Call LLCHD for information about properly disposing of unusable latex paint. (BPO)

## Cans for Books

Midland Recycling and A & J Recycling wish to honor National School Library Media Month and Environmental Awareness Days with Cans for Books.

- Who:** Area Elementary and Middle Schools
- When:** April 16-May 18
- Where:** A & J Recycling (two blocks north of 20 and Cornhusker Highway) 3400 North 22 Street, 438-3684

It's as easy as ABC to raise money for your school library AND help the environment!

A. Aluminum Cans—All families, friends, neighbors, and businesses should collect aluminum cans to recycle for school libraries.

B. Bring the cans to A & J Recycling between April 16 and May 18. At each visit, fill out an entry card to designate the school library and student at the school you wish to support.

C. Cash for Cans—Midland Recycling will donate \$.03/pound to the designated school library and you will receive market price for your aluminum cans! (Or, you may choose to donate the cash payment to the library too!)

Bonus: Midland Recycling will donate one special \$500 award to the school library with the highest dollar donation per capita.

Midland Recycling will present a \$50 Lee Booksellers gift certificate and an environmental award to the student credited with the most aluminum cans recycled.

Money and award will be presented by Midland Recycling on May 24.

**For more information, contact:** Mike Foster or Ken Cooper, Midland Recycling—476-8502; Marti Franti, Lincoln Public Schools Recycling Coordinator—436-1061; or Donna Ewoldt, Director, Lincoln Public Schools Media Services—436-1627. (ALH)

