



# Wasp Safety Tips

Got Wasps? Get Adam's. Call 763-746-9512

- Wear closed shoes to protect yourself from stepping on a wasp or hornet.
- Don't wear floral or bright clothing and try to avoid wearing sweet smelling perfume or aftershave; wasps can be attracted to these things.
- If a wasp or hornet comes near you try to remain still until it leaves. Do not swat at wasps or wave your arms to fend them off. You will only antagonize them and be more likely to be stung.
- Avoid leaving sugary drinks unattended and always look before you drink out of a can outdoors.
- Keep outdoor trash cans and woodpiles off the ground and place them a distance away from the outside of your home. It is also a good idea to create garden areas and compost piles away from the exterior of your home. Also, any fruits or veggies that fall to the ground should be quickly picked up and removed.
- When hosting an outdoor event, make sure that used plates and empty beverage containers are quickly disposed of and placed in trash cans with tight fitting lids. When done eating, bring the uneaten food back inside to avoid attracting wasps to your party.
- Look for wasps in work areas before using weed eaters, hedge clippers, lawn mowers, chain saws, etc. Wasps frequently attack when a person is mowing the lawn or pruning shrubs inadvertently strikes a nest.
- If attacked, run away in a straight line as quickly as you can. Do not flail or swing your arms at them, as this may further annoy them.
- Do not stay still if you are being stung -- they will not stop if you "play dead".
- Don't jump into a pool or other body of water to avoid being stung. Bees and wasps will wait for you to surface and will sting you when you do.
- Because bees and wasps target the head, mouth, and eyes, lower your head and cover your face as much as you can without slowing your escape.
- Don't pen, tie or tether animals near bee hives or nests.
- Refrain from using a ladder to reach a hive that is high off the ground. Falling off a ladder while receiving multiple stings is more costly than a professional exterminator.
- Open areas on the exterior of your home or outbuildings like loose siding should be repaired to help prevent wasps from building their nest in this space.
- Keep doors and windows closed or make sure that they have screens in them to help prevent wasps from finding their way inside.