

TEAM

RID A MITE

TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL



FUMIGATION PROCESS AND WHAT TO EXPECT FOLLOWING A FUMIGATION

How long do we have to be out of the house?

The termite fumigation process normally takes 3 days and 2 nights unless there is a holiday or weekends or if special arrangements are made. NOTE: If you are fumigating for Bed Bugs or Cockroaches it will be 1 extra day and 1 ½ times the fumigant (an extra charge will apply).

How does the termite fumigation process work?

- 1st day, the property is covered with a tarp
- Fans are placed inside the property to circulate the gas.
- The gas is released inside the property. Since the gas is odorless, Chloropicrin (tear gas) is used as a warning agent.
- Warning signs are posted around the perimeter.
- 2nd day, the tent is removed and the gas is aired out.
- 3rd day is certification. They will use a special instrument to be sure the level of gas is 5 parts per million or below (safe for re-entry).

Will fumigation kill all the termites?

It will kill all termites that are inside the structure. However, since colonies of subterranean termites are under the ground in places the fumigation will not be able to reach, subterranean termites will eventually re-infest the structure. (For subterranean termites, the soil has to be treated with a residual chemical to create a chemical barrier between the subterranean termites' colony and the wood. This is not part of the fumigation process) Fumigation is for drywood termites.

If we tent on a Monday, when can we come back in?

If we tent Monday, people can come back in Wednesday. If we tent Thursday, people can come back in Saturday. However, if we tent on a Friday, people can't come back in until Monday, unless special arrangements are made. We highly recommend Thursday through Saturday.

As part of the fumigation process, we will call the gas utility company to turn off the gas utility. This is a must. The gas utility company will turn off the gas utility between 7am –12 noon, usually the day of the fumigation. The gas utility company must have access to the gas meter. There cannot be a locked gate or a dog to prevent the gas utility worker from getting to the gas meter, especially if no one is at home at the time of arrival. Upon request, we can also have the gas utility turned back on, usually on the 3rd day, or the last day, of the fumigation when the structure is certified for re-entry. An adult must be home to allow the gas utility company to go into the structure to re-light the pilot on the gas appliances. The gas utility company will not turn on the gas utility on Sunday and holidays. The Electricity must remain on.

Will termite fumigation kill other insects too?

If the target pest is drywood termites, the concentration of Vikane gas will be very specific to the required dosage for drywood termites. However, even at this dosage, Vikane will kill many other insects like cockroaches, silverfish, ants, even rats and mice. NOTE: We do not guarantee these other insects unless specifically stated on your contract.

Will fumigation kill the eggs too?

No, Vikane is not an ovidicide, meaning it will not kill the insect eggs. However, in the case of termites, even if the eggs hatch, the baby termite will eventually die because there are no worker termites to feed them.

What do we have to do to prepare?

There may be quite a few preparations depending on your particular situation. It is best to discuss all the preparations with your inspector. All living things (people, pets, plants, etc) must vacate the structure. All things that are ingested, absorbed, or injected into the body must be removed and taken away from the property, or, they can be put in and sealed in special Nylofume bags. This includes all food items, medicine, vitamins, herbs, creams and lotions, tooth paste, etc. (canned goods, bottles, and jars that have never been opened, and for sure are air tight, are the exception and do not have to be removed or bagged) The Nylofume bags will be provided by us. See preparations for fumigation or occupant's fumigation notice for a more detailed list.

Why do we have to remove our food?

Vikane gas is not a registered food pesticide, which is why we require you to either remove anything that you ingest (food, vitamins, etc.), or we can provide the special Nylofume bags especially suited for termite fumigation where your food items will be kept safe. **NOTE: If you are fumigating for cockroaches or bed bugs we do not recommend the use of the Nylofume bags. You will be instructed to remove all food items from the home/structure(s).**

Do we have to wash our dishes or clothes after fumigation?

No, Vikane gas will not stick to any surface because of its non-residual properties. Therefore you do not have to wash your dishes, clothes, bedding's, etc.

Will the gas affect anything of my other belongings inside the house?

No it will not. Vikane gas is not known to react with any material inside the house.

Me or my child has a respiratory disease, how will fumigation affect my child's condition?

It is best to refer to your child's physician for recommendation. On our part, we can provide your physician a **Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)** for reference. You can also call **Dow Elanco Customer Information Service** at **(800) 352-6776** for more information about Vikane gas and Chloropicrin.

Why do I see more ants or insects after my fumigation?

The fumigation does not leave a residual behind therefore any insect can enter the structure immediately following the fumigation and since ants, cockroaches and other insects are foragers, they will feed on the dead termite colonies. We recommend a regular maintenance service for these insects. Please contact our office for more details.

I have fumigated, why do we still see termite droppings?

Though fumigation kills all termites inside the house, the droppings will still be inside the termite galleries or tunnels inside the wood. Through constant movement of the house, for example, doors closing hard, natural movements, and the gravitational pull, you will still see termite droppings occasionally.

I have fumigated already, why am I seeing flying termites?

These termites are likely coming from the exterior (neighbors' homes or surrounding buildings). These termites have left the nesting area and will die off naturally.