

# Millipedes

Scientific Name: Class diplopoda



## Identification Tips:

<b>Color</b>	Light brown to black
<b>Legs</b>	Most body segments have 2 pair of legs (usually 30-90 or more pairs of legs)
<b>Size</b>	Species vary in length from less than one inch to two or more inches
<b>Identifying Characteristics</b>	Wormlike; head is rounded with short antennae; often called “thousand-leggers” or “rain worms”

## Characteristics of this insect:

- Actually, not an insect. They are more closely related to lobsters, crayfish and shrimp
- Millipedes are not poisonous, but many species have glands capable of producing irritating fluids that may cause allergic reactions
- Considered scavengers that feed on decaying vegetation and leaf litter, although some species may attack roots of living plants
- Millipedes spend most of time in soil, which is where they overwinter. In the spring, 20 to 300 eggs are laid in the soil
- They may build up in large number and may migrate in dry weather and enter basements, ground floors, and window wells. They are a particular problem for homeowners situated in a woodland setting

## Is this insect harmful to me?

Potentially, yes. As mentioned, some species produce a noxious fluid that contains hydrochloric acid that can be toxic to arthropods and small animals. In humans, it can chemically burn the skin and cause long-term skin discoloration. It is not advised to handle this insect. Repeated hand washing or use of solvents ether or alcohol will help remove the repugnant smell from your hands.



## Why are they in my structure?

There may be a high degree of moisture present in or around your home that helps perpetuate this problem. They will enter the structure via electrical/plumbing lines, eaves, door and window framing, overhanging tree branches, and wood piles adjacent to house to name a few. Their willingness to enter the structure may be due to excessive moisture conditions outside due to heavy rains, warmer temperatures for the season, excellent climbing ability, or their natural hibernation movement.

## Can I treat the problem myself?

Due to the conditions that help perpetuate this insect, the many places it can reside in a dwelling and the harmful effects from coming into contact with them, millipedes are not easily eradicated by the owner of the structure. Please remember that products may be harmful to you and your family if they are misused or misapplied and should be handled by a professional.

### ***What can Apex do for me?***

An Apex representative will spend time interviewing the homeowner in order to ascertain where the presence of millipedes is located. That being said, Apex can provide you with a one-time application or a preventative maintenance plan.

**One-Time Treatment:** An interview with the homeowner is conducted along with a detailed inspection of both the inside and outside of the structure. Time is spent determining the most effective application and then a targeted application of product is made to rid your home or surroundings of these unwanted guests. A 90-day guarantee is provided with free service calls if needed.

**Pest Prevention Plan:** Quarterly inspections and treatments are performed to keep your dwelling pest free year around. Free service calls are provided whenever a pest outbreak occurs. Being that a variety of general insect problems are covered, this is a cost effective way to maintain the integrity of your home and is the **recommended treatment of Apex.**

### ***Is the treatment safe for my children and pets?***



Since 1969, Apex has always operated with one goal in mind: *“The safety of people, pets, places, and the environment is our first concern.”* Therefore, we will utilize crack and crevice and spot applications, baits, monitors, habitat modification recommendations, and natural products as a method of treatment when possible. When conventional treatments are required, our licensed technicians are trained to apply the products so as to not pose a problem to people or their pets. All conventional products are EPA registered and our technician will advise you of any necessary precautions.

### ***What should I do now?***

Call our office at 1-800-MUG-A-BUG (1-800-684-2284) to discuss your problem with a knowledgeable customer service representative. Otherwise, sign up for a free online quote today!

<http://www.apexpestcontrol.net/> **1-800-MUG-A-BUG**

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