

# Yellowjackets

Scientific Name: *Vespula germanica*



## Identification Tips:

<b>Color</b>	Typical black and yellow color pattern
<b>Legs</b>	6
<b>Size</b>	Adults are 3/8 to 3/4 inch long; Queens about 25% larger

## Characteristics of this insect:

- Social insects that consist of workers that are sterile females, queens which are the fertile females, and males that appear in later summer from unfertilized eggs
- Only the inseminated queen overwinters and in the spring, use chewed cellulose material to build up a paper carton or bag nest of few cells. One egg is laid in each cell and the queen initially feeds developing larvae chewed up insects, spiders, and nectar. Nests are constructed in attics, eaves, soffits, gaps in exterior construction, false ceilings, and exterior rodent burrows to name a few
- Nest size varies from 300 to 120,000 cells averaging 2,000 to 6,000 cells that contain 1,000 to 4,000 workers at its peak

## Why are they in my structure?

There is no particular reason why your structure was chosen to be a nesting site for this insect. They can enter the structure via cracks in foundations, unsealed gaps around exterior construction, utility lines that enter the structure, or under flashing. On occasion, later in the season, this insect may chew through the drywall and enter the living space.



## Is this insect harmful to me?

Potentially, yes. Being that this insect frequents wet manure and sewage, their contaminated stinger may inject a bacterium beneath the skin and cause blood poisoning. Also, in later summer when the adults aren't needed to tend to the young, they are more aggressive searching for nectar and juices and may make outdoor gatherings a nightmare. Medical issues may arise if you are found to be allergic to the sting.

## Can I treat the problem myself?

Effective control by the homeowner is unlikely due to the sheer number of occupants in the nest and the worrisome fact of being stung and the medical concerns that may arise. Many owners will treat a wall void nest with the wrong product, forcing this stinging insect inside the living space, thereby increasing the threat. 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 as to where the yellowjackets have been seen and assessing the conditions around or within the home that may be causing the problems. 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 treatment spot is guaranteed for the remainder of the season.

**Pest Prevention Plan:** Quarterly inspections and treatments are performed to keep your home 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?***

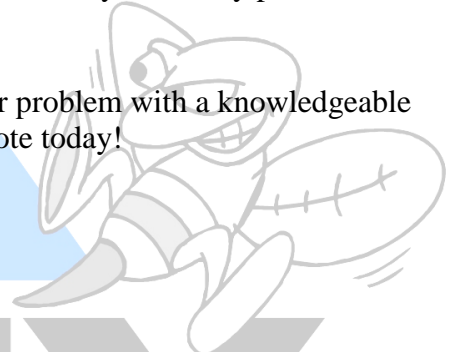


Since 1969, Apex has always operated with one goal in mind: *“The safety of people, pets, places, and the environment is our first concern.”* Therefore, we will utilize crack and crevice and spot applications, baits, monitors, habitat modification recommendations, and natural products as a method of 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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