

Pest Control Guide



When you are filling out the FSD Self-Log you want to be checking for **all signs** of **any** pests and noting anything seen even ants. You may not use any poison around the food. If you have evidence of a pest please contact your Partnerships Coordinator **immediately**.

Below are some common pests to look out for in the San Diego area. However, if you find evidence of pests that don't match these please still log it and call your Partnership Coordinator immediately so you can troubleshoot and identify the problem together quickly.

Indian Meal Moth



Indian Meal Moths are attracted to dry goods. The eggs look like white caterpillars with a black tip on it. They often make a web in the corners of boxes and lay eggs there. They are extremely hard to get rid of once they are established. Their eggs can often hatch within 7 days so it can quickly become a large problem. Infestations begin with stored foods that contain the eggs. They feed on things like flour, cereals, nuts, etc.

Note any issues on the log and call Partnerships Coordinator immediately.

Rodents



You need to be checking for droppings, smudges, damaged packing and ways that mice or rats could be entering. If your finger can fit inside the hole then a rat can fit in it. If a #2 pencil can fit inside the hole then a mouse can fit. Rats can also scale walls.

Rodents leave smudges on walls and areas they travel frequently from their greasy fur which you can spot. It looks like this



Droppings the size of a grain of rice is a rat and the size of pencil lead is a mouse.

The carry diseases and their urine and droppings can be left on food stored in the area.

You want to be sure that tree branches are touching structures so they can easily move to the building, that there are door sweeps under all doors and that you always shut doors instead of leaving them open.

Roaches

There are many different kinds of roaches in San Diego. Typically, the bigger the roach the less destructive they can be but you would still want to keep an eye out for all. The German roach has black or brown lines on the shield behind its head and is very difficult to control once established. They like heat, cardboard and will eat anything. If you find materials with a black spray in the corners or sandwiched between two surfaces that is their droppings. They are very tough to kill.



Birds

If you find any birds nesting or in the areas of food these are still considered pest as the dropping still carry diseases and are a food safety concern.