

VILLA NEWS

Tis The Season ForAnts!
Maintenance Tip of the Month
By Nat Turdo



If you happen to see a single ant walking across the kitchen floor or across your counter, you can bet that you'll find others who are visiting your apartment for one reason—a free meal! But you can't blame them—ants are just creatures of opportunity. They're using their instincts in order to satisfy their stomachs like every other living creature, great and small.

Here's a bit of ant trivia: ants have about 250,000 brain cells, making them the smartest species of insects. Their antennae are used for smell as well as touch. They have two stomachs, one of their own, and one that stores food for other ants in the colony. Ants eat every kind of food from vegetables to meats, but are partial to sweets and foods containing protein. They also love honeydew, grease, vegetables and fruit. Once an ant finds a food source, it will quickly communicate with others in the colony and ring the dinner bell!

To keep your apartment ant free during the upcoming summer months, there are a few things you can do. Keep foods such as honey, maple syrup, jelly and sugar in sealed containers or in the refrigerator. Keep snack foods such as cookies, crackers and potato chips in plastic containers rather than their original cardboard boxes or plastic bags. Make sure your apartment is clean by removing any crumbs from these foods and don't leave empty jam jars, bowls or food waste in your kitchen sink.

If you happen to see a large amount of ants in your apartment or see ant trails (that look like a two-lane highway going from one area to another), please call Maintenance to have your apartment sprayed. Remember, not leaving any food available to begin with is the best way to deter these little pests from making your home theirs!