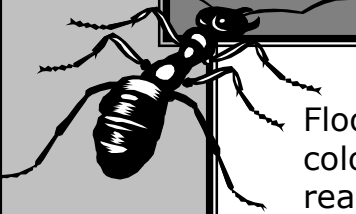


Harris County Community!

Fire Ants: What You Need to Know



Flood waters will not drown fire ants. When flooding occurs, fire ant colonies emerge from the soil, form a loose ball and float until they reach a dry area or object they can crawl on. A new mound will then be established.

Be Cautious

- Do not stand near or on ant nests/mounds.
- Fire ants can be found in debris from flooded homes, especially debris that has been sitting in one area for several days.
- Fire ants can also be found in debris that must be handled by using a shovel or other tool.
- Fire ants can also be found indoors. Watch for ants that may enter buildings through small cracks and openings.

Protect Yourself

- Wear gloves, long sleeved shirts, long pants, socks and shoes when working outdoors.

Treat Stings

- Brush fire ants away from skin and wash the bite or bites with warm water and soap.
- Minor stings can be treated with over-the-counter products that relieve pain and prevent infection.
- More severe stings and allergic reactions are serious. Seek medical attention immediately.

Get rid of fire ant mounds when they appear!

Harris County

HCPHES

Public Health & Environmental Services

www.hcphe.org

Protect your family.
Protect yourself.
Avoid Fire Ants!

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