

A Safe Home Environment: What's That I Smell?

**Satellite Conference and Live Webcast
Wednesday, March 11, 2009
2:00-4:00 p.m. (Central Time)**

Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health
Video Communications and Distance Learning Division

Faculty

**Steven McDaniel
Public Health Environmental
Supervisor
Director of Solid Waste, Vector Branch
of Division of Community
Environmental Protection
Bureau of Environmental Sciences
Alabama Department of Public Health**

Objectives

- Understand the need for solid waste control & how public health laws affect home care
- Recognize public health concerns
- Knowledge of harborages and infestations that can be found in patient homes
- List vector borne diseases

Objectives

- Learn how to safely store food in the patient's home
- Realize how patients can acquire a food borne illness
- Know how to check for lead in a patient's home
- Describe how mold & mildew can cause health problems

General

- Prevent public health nuisance
- Generator responsibility
- Technical expertise for Managers of MSW

General

- Other approvals not implied
 - Does not constitute approval by any county, municipality, or other agency having planning, zoning, or other legal jurisdictions
- Local rules more stringent

Public Health Laws of Alabama

- 22-10-1 Enumeration of conditions, etc., constituting public nuisances menacing public health
 - Animals (including fish, birds, fowls, & insects,) other than human beings, infected with or acting as, or likely to act as, conveyors of disease or infection whereby they are likely to become menaces to public health;

Public Health Laws of Alabama

- 22-10-1
 - Insanitary building, yards premises, places, privies, ponds, marshes, swamps and dumps which are, or are likely to become, menaces to public health;

Public Health Laws of Alabama

- 22-10-1
 - Insanitary clothing, furniture, vehicles, containers, receptacles, appliance and equipment which are , or are likely to become, nuisances to public health;

Public Health Laws of Alabama

- 22-10-2 How any by whom nuisance to be abated
 - Any such nuisance shall be abated by the county board of health and the county health officer in any of the ways provided in this chapter that may be appropriate or in any other lawful manner including abatement by a complaint

As Defined in 420-3-5

- Vector
 - An organism that is capable of carrying or transmitting a human pathogen, or human disease-causing agent, from one host to another

Certificate of Exemption

- Social Security income only
- Submit to LHO/ forward to county commission
- Applicable in every county

SS Exemption Act

- Exempt from fees
 - Not participation
- Proof of income
- Submit to LHO
 - Filing deadline
- Forward to county
- Additional exemptions
 - 75% poverty level

SS Exemption Act

- Attorney General Opinions
 - SSI
 - VA benefits
 - Food Stamps
 - Apply in all counties

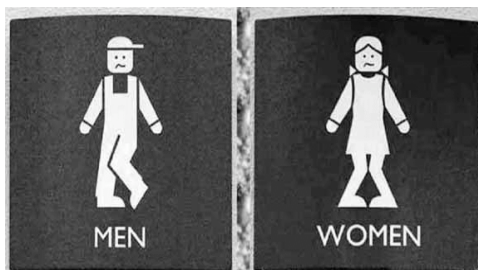
Public Health Concerns

- About 75% of the new diseases that have affected humans over the past 10 years have been caused by pathogens originating from an animal or from products of animal origin

Public Health Concerns

- Many of these diseases have the potential to spread through various means over long distances and to become global problems

Sanitary Facilities and Hand Wash Facilities



Complaints

- Why infestation?
 - Sanitation
 - Ecological
 - Tree limbs 5 ft
 - Concrete buffer
 - Abundant food
 - Habitat
 - Climatic, new construction, fire

Signs of Rat Infestation

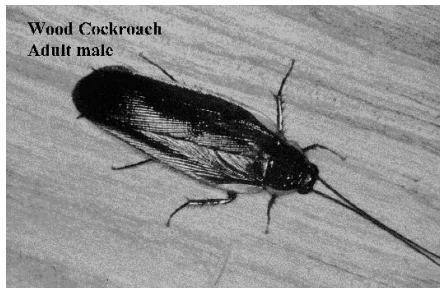
- Droppings
- Runways
- Burrows
- Gnawing
- Tracks

Rodents - Rats & Mice

- Rats
 - Most dangerous mammal
- Commensal
- Disease
 - Bites
 - Fleas
 - Plague
 - Urine/Feces

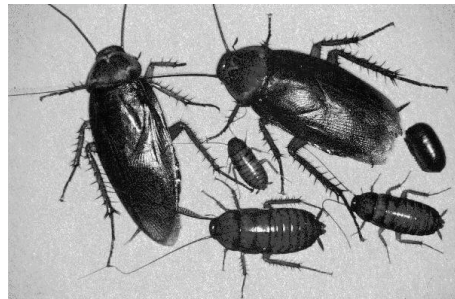
Cockroaches

- Wood roach



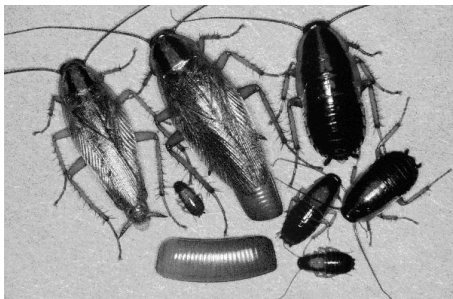
Cockroaches

- American



Cockroaches

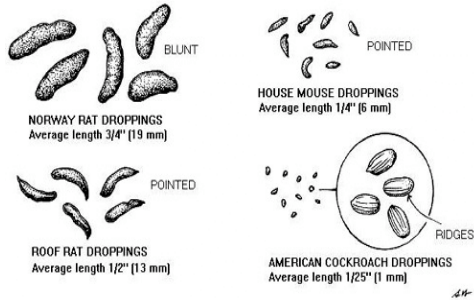
- German



German Cockroach Signs



Droppings



House Fly

- Common inside home
- Do not bite
- Vomit & defecate
- Breed
 - Man-made food source
- Feed
 - Liquid waste
 - Sugar

Bedbugs

- Bedbugs
 - Can become a great nuisance in crowded settings especially if temporary housing lasts several months
- Bedbug bites cause significant discomfort and loss of sleep
- In heavily infested areas, young children may show signs of anemia

Licensed Pest Control Operator

- Vermin and vectors shall be controlled in a manner acceptable to the Local Health Officer, and through a person licensed or certified by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries to perform pest control services

In Summary Vector Borne Diseases

- Mosquitoes: malaria, filariasis, yellow fever, dengue fever
- Non-Biting Flies: cholera, typhoid, dysentery
- Biting Flies: sleeping sickness, river blindness
- Fleas: plague, murine typhus

In Summary Vector Borne Diseases

- Lice: skin infections, epidemic typhus, relapsing fever
- Ticks: tick-borne relapsing fever
- Rodent: rat bite fever, leptospirosis, salmonellosis

In Conclusion Vector Control

- The control of vector-borne diseases requires efforts of several sectors including
 - Municipal code officials
 - Local water/sanitation
 - Health services
 - Environmental
 - Food, milk, and lodging

In Conclusion Vector Control

- To ensure the affected community shares the responsibility of determining their health care, representative members should be involved in all phases of vector control

We Need To Know About Vector-Host Relationships

- Without the vector, the disease life cycle would be broken and the pathogen would die
- Some diseases may require several individual hosts before completing pathogen transmission

We Need To Know About Vector-Host Relationships

- We at Public Health can better design, manage control programs, and set up monitoring for a particular problem by understanding how a disease is transmitted and the involvement of vectors

