

STINK BUGS

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB). They are a nuisance, they smell horribly and there are many, many of them. Where did these bugs come from? What do I do? Will they cause any damage? Will they bite or sting? Are my children and pets safe?

All very relevant questions! The stink bug is a relative newcomer to the United States. The first ones found in the US were discovered in 2001 in Allentown, Pa. Last year, with all of the snow followed by a hot and dry summer presented ideal conditions for the stink bug to really increase in numbers. Large numbers of the stink bugs have been found in Washington County in Western Maryland. Right now the entire state of Maryland has large numbers of stink bugs. Next fall it looks like the stink bug will exponentially increase. The stink bug came to us via Asia. The threat that stink bugs presents are to crops, plant leaves, buds and fruits.

The stink bug will **not**: bite, sting, suck blood, bore into or eat wood. In the spring the stink bugs want to get out of your home where they have overwintered. Once out of your home they will mate. What do you do, as a homeowner? Find and seal all possible entry sites into your home (always the best bet for keeping most insects out of the house). Torn screens need to be repaired or replaced. All obvious entry points need to be sealed especially around entry points for power, phone and cable lines.

Contact us, we can begin getting all entry points sealed and we will take other preventive measures to reduce the problem next fall. The BMSB problem will go away from the inside of your home very soon, but trust us the stink bugs will return next fall as the nights begin to cool. These critters do not like any temperatures below 40 degrees. The stink bug got here from Asia and we have to cope and deal with them. BOG Pest Control uses an IPM (Integrated Pest Management) approach to controlling all insects. Let BOG Pest Control "Protect Your Pad".