



6 Step Checklist

for Choosing a Pest Control Company
in Baton Rouge

www.arrowtermiteandpestcontrol.com

Baton Rouge, the capitol city of Louisiana is the state's second largest city.



Located on the Mississippi river, it is not only known as the political center of Louisiana but is also the second largest city in the state, with a population of nearly 230,000 residents in the city, and nearly 820,000 residents in the surrounding areas dubbed Greater Baton Rouge. The city is home to major industrial, manufacturing and petrochemical plants, and is growing to become one of the next major motion picture and technology hubs in the USA. Louisiana is known for its hot, humid summers and generally mild winters, making it an excellent place for outdoor industries and activities. Unfortunately, the regularly hot and humid climate makes it an extremely great location for all sorts of pests to call home. With pests being such a common problem for residents of the Greater Baton Rouge area, the best way to handle these year round pest problems is by hiring a professional pest control company. With so many options out there, how can you determine which is the best pest control company to work with for your seasonal pest problems? In this guide, we'll walk you through everything you need to know (and some things you probably hadn't thought about) when choosing the right pest control company for your home or business.

1 Consider the Types of Pesticides and Treatment Methods Used



When it comes to choosing a pest control company, one of the most important factors to consider are the treatment methods and types of pesticides the company utilizes to treat your home or business. While many of the pest control companies you encounter will utilize many of the same treatment, you may want to consider not only the impact these treatments can have on your family, but the environment as well.

Pest Control's Effect on the Environment

Baton Rouge was recently named by Forbes as America's 14th dirtiest city. In their listing, they identified Baton Rouge's "oil refineries, chemical plants and emissions from coal-burning power plants" as one of the major contributing factors to their ranking. These plants and refineries not only pollute the air, but can lead to pollution of the nearby Mississippi river, as well as the numerous bodies of water and bayous around the area.

Consider the types of Pesticides (cont.)

Protecting Your Family and Pets

The frequency of treatments and the types of pesticides used in and around your home can have a direct impact on you and your family. If you have small children or pets in your home, it's important to consider the types of pesticides being used and whether or not they're safe for your family to be around.

When speaking with a pest control company, make sure to ask about the types of pesticides they use and recommend, let them know about your family situation and ask about any safety issues you should be concerned with. The right company will gladly address any concerns you may have and should be able to address them appropriately.



2 Find Out if the Company Practices Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



Often referred to as Integrated Pest Control (IPC), Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a pest management process that focuses on utilizing the least intrusive methods possible to control pest populations, increasing treatment intensity as needed as time or necessity requires. A true IPM is designed to discourage the development of pest populations over extended periods of time, rather than simply treating problems as they occur.

IPM services are not used to treat all types of pest, but are utilized to control pest problems in order to reduce the need for pesticides. While IPM isn't always the appropriate (or available) treatment for every type of pest, it can help you to identify pest control companies who consider alternative treatment methods and won't immediately default to the use of pesticides as a treatment option. If pesticides can be avoided and an IPM can be used, this will always have increased health and safety benefits for your home or business as opposed to the use of pesticides.

3 Work with an Experienced, Local Company

Those of us who have lived in the south know all too well that companies have a tendency to pop up and disappear after natural disasters, burning their list of customers in the process. We've all heard stories of fly-by-night roofing companies that show up after a hurricane, throw up poorly constructed roofs in the wake of a disaster, and take off like bandits in the night with residents' hard earned money. Because of this, people have learned that it's important to work with companies that have their roots in the area and have been around for many years.

This need for experienced, local service providers carries over to the pest control industry as well, while not for the same reasons. When choosing a pest control company, it's crucial that you work with a company who has worked in the area for an extended period of time and has experience working with pests common to your area. When you choose a company that is familiar with common pest problems that affect your area, they will have developed appropriate treatment methods that are certain to satisfy your pest control needs.



4 Find Out Their Customer Satisfaction Level



The internet has without a doubt been one of the greatest inventions of the past century as it makes an enormous wealth of information available to us at the click of a few buttons. This is especially true in the pest control industry, as we no longer have to rely on the word of mouth of friends and family and can actually investigate the companies we choose to work with and find detailed reviews from the people who have worked with them in the past.

There are hundreds of review websites out there that allow customers to post their experiences, whether good or bad, with a company for the world to see. Simply taking some time to investigate a company on these websites can give you an idea of how satisfied their previous customers have been and what you can expect to experience when working with them.

When looking into pest control companies, check these sites for reviews:

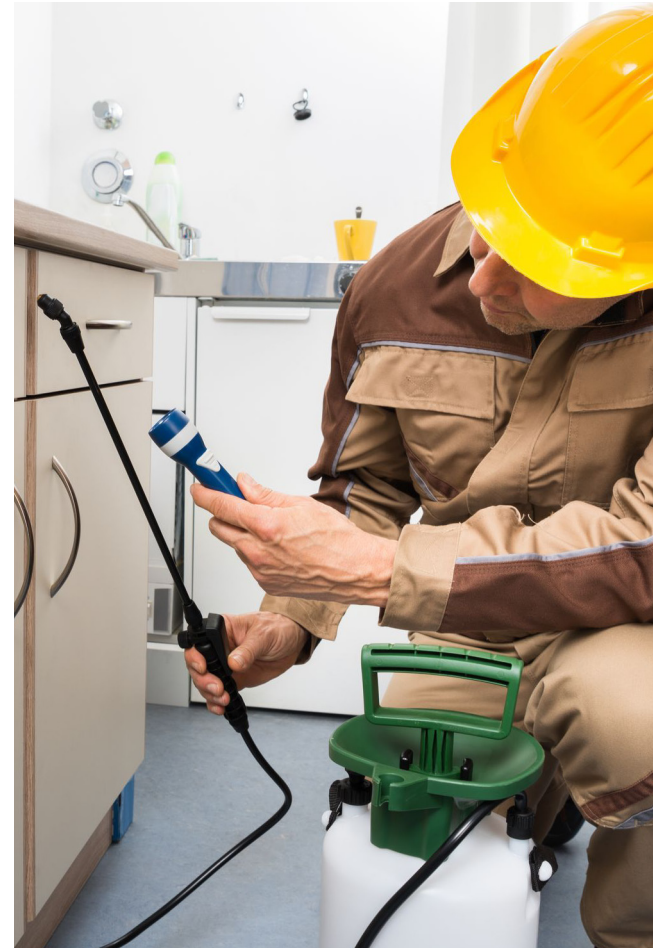
- AngiesList.com
- Yelp.com
- Yellowpages.com
- Google.com

5 Find out What Services are Provided

There are hundreds of different types of pests that could potentially become a problem in your home or business, and not all pest control companies will handle every pest. When attempting to find a pest control company to work with, you need to find out whether or not they work with the type of pest problems you're experiencing

In addition, it's important to find out how they treat pests. Do they make one visit to your home and hope for the best, or do they perform routine maintenance treatments to ensure the pests are gone for good? Look for a company that can provide repeat, year round treatment options, this will help ensure that you remain pest free year round and aren't constantly having to call for repeat treatments.

Finally, find out if they offer any guarantees or warranties on pest control services. Many experienced companies have tried and true methods for controlling pests and are willing to stand behind their treatment methods, and will often offer guarantees or warranties to make sure the pests stay gone after treatment.



6

Make Sure the Company is Licensed in Louisiana



Before working with any pest control company, it's important to make sure that they're not only licensed to perform pest control services in Louisiana, but that they're insured should any sort of damages occur.

The state of Louisiana requires that any company who applies pesticides for hire be licensed before operating in the state commercially. When choosing a company, look for signs that their certified in your state, and are members of professional pest control associations.



\$20

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