OCCUPANTS FUMIGATION PREPARATION CHECKLIST

In addition to the work performed by your fumigator, it is your responsibility to help prepare your home for the fumigation. Taking the following steps prior to fumigation helps ensure its success, resulting in the elimination of Drywood termites from your home. Some of these items take time and planning so please read through this document as soon as you get it.

Suggested Time Line
(This is just a suggested time line. Please read the detailed instructions and adjust times to fit your particular needs.)

Depending on amount of days of notice you have...

- **As soon as possible**
  - Make arrangements for you and your pets.
  - Make security arrangements if desired.
  - Plan your purchases so you don’t have more food than necessary on site.
  - Identify if there are any connecting conduits to other structures.
  - Close possible entry points to prevent wayward cats from hiding in/under structures.

- **Three to five days before**
  - Contact the Gas Company for shut-off. (If not arranged by Vital Signs)
  - Prune any touching/encroaching plants.
  - Make sure all documents have been signed.
  - If you aren’t going to meet the fumigators, make key arrangements.

- **Two days before**
  - Remove non-perishable foods and plants to another location.
  - Locate and contain any wayward pets such as cats that can hide from you.
  - Water the soil next to the foundation.

- **The day before**
  - Water the soil next to the foundation again.
  - Bag/remove perishable foods.
  - Turn off automatic timers, heaters and other items listed.
  - Take pets to boarding or other location.
  - Remove any antennas, vehicles, waterproof coverings, and other identified items.

- **The day of the fumigation**
  - Meet the fumigators if key arrangements weren’t made in advance.
  - Be ready to leave as early as 8:00 A.M.
  - Contact the Gas Company for restoration appointment and instructions.

- **After the fumigation**
  - Keep the door tag (allowing entry) and meet with Gas Company to restore service.
  - Turn back on any devices and timers.
  - It is **not** necessary to wash dishes, linens, clothing, etc., as the fumigant is a gas and will not leave any residue on surfaces.

*Please see the Detailed Instructions for full information regarding this list. Thank You.*
Vital Signs Professional Real Estate Services, Inc.
Household Fumigation Preparation
Detailed Instructions

It is the responsibility of the home owner, occupant, or home owner’s agent, to have all items on this checklist done before the crew arrives. Failure may postpone the fumigation. If you are not sure about something…call!

1. Items to be Removed
   a. Living things
      i. All living things (such as pets, including fish, and desirable growing plants) must be removed from the structure before the fumigation begins. These items must be away from the areas being covered by the tarp. Locate and detain cats that may try to hide from you.
      ii. All people must vacate. Remember to make arrangements for overnight accommodations for you and your pets, as your home will be under fumigation for two or three nights.
      iii. The fumigated structures must not be re-entered until they have been tested and declared safe for re-entry by a Licensed Fumigator. A notice will be posted on the door when safe to enter.
   b. Vehicles
      i. If there are any vehicles in carports or garages that will be tented they must be removed and parked away from the structures.
   c. Watertight coverings
      i. Remove all waterproof covers (such as “Can’t Wet”) from all mattresses and pillows, or better, remove the entire mattresses and pillows from the structure. Waterbed mattresses are okay.
   d. Foodstuffs: See the diagrams attached.
      i. Try not to purchase extra food from the groceries store, the more you have, the more you will need to bag or remove.
      ii. Food, feed, drugs, and medicinal items (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) can remain in the structure if they are in plastic, glass, or metal bottles, cans, or jars with the original manufacturer’s air-tight seal intact. Food, feed, drugs, and medicinal items (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) not in plastic, glass, or metal bottles, cans, or jars with the original manufacturer’s air-tight seal intact, need to be removed from the fumigation site, or double bagged in Nylofume brand bags, which are only available from your termite inspector.
      iii. For the refrigerator and freezer, it is easier to remove all the items and possibly some or all of the shelves and then place the doubled bags inside the refrigerator/freezer and then insert the food and then seal the bags.
      iv. We will supply you with the legally required type of fumigation bags and unless more than 10 bags (5 finished bags) are needed, the cost is included in your fumigation price. Any additional bags needed, will be charged to you at our cost. Our cost for these bags is $0.80 each ($1.60 per finished bag).
      v. Items not properly bagged will either be thrown out (if deemed necessary by our fumigation crew) or bagged by our fumigation crew at a cost of $185 per hour ($185 minimum).
      vi. Do not bag anything other than edible products, as it is unnecessary. The fumigant will not leave any residue upon completion of the fumigation.

2. Gas service
   a. Shut-off: Southern California Gas will not permit fumigation companies to shut-off/restore gas service. You must schedule, at least 24 hours in advance. Call (800) 427-2200 to shut off the gas meter to your property prior to the fumigation. Vital Signs arranges for the shut-off in some cases.
      NOTE: For the city of Long Beach: 3 to 5 days notice must be given. Call (562) 570-5700 and have a Visa Charge Card available to pay the $35.00 Fee they will charge the owner when you call.
   b. Restoration: Southern California Gas is requiring that the homeowner or agent be present at the time of service restoration and that they show proof that the structure is safe for re-entry. The re-entry notice that is posted on the front door will suffice, so make sure you keep that notice to show to the Gas Company Representative.

3. Electricity/water
   a. Electricity: Electricity and water must be available, as it will be necessary to run fans during the fumigation process.
   b. Turn Off: The occupant must turn off any air conditioning unit, thermostat operated or otherwise. Shut off or unplug automatic timers and switches for lighting, appliances, and all electrical heating elements such as those in heaters, pianos, organs, pet habitats, etc.
4. Keys and access
   a. Locked areas: It is important that you make key arrangements with your termite inspector. The fumigator must have access to all rooms and compartments inside of the fumigated structures. If you have a walk-in safe or other security area, it must be inspected prior to the fumigation and then locked.
   b. Secondary locks: The law requires that all exterior doors be locked during fumigation. We use secondary locks or nails on doors if necessary. Windows are opened to allow the fumigant gas to move freely.
   c. Items to open: Open operable internal doors, internal openings to attics and sub areas, storage chests, cabinets, drawers, closets, and appliances (such as washers, dishwashers, dryers, microwave or conventional ovens, etc.) No locked doors or compartments are allowed.

5. Security
   a. Unlawful acts: Vital Signs Professional Real Estate Services, Inc. is not responsible for security against vandalism, theft or breaking and entering, before or during the fumigation and aeration procedure, or after the property is released for re-entry. It is recommended that you remove any valuable items from the premises prior to the fumigation.
   b. Guards: The gate to a pool area may need to be left open. We do not supply any security services. If you wish to have the property guarded it is your responsibility to obtain and pay for a guard service. If any burglar alarms are to be left on, leave operational instructions with your termite inspector.

6. Exterior Preparation
   a. Foundation/ground
      i. Cut back shrubbery and tree branches to prevent damage. Allow enough space for the tent to fall freely to the ground. Tree limbs growing over the roof must be trimmed back.
      ii. Thoroughly water the soil up to 18 inches from the outer walls of your home and the ground around shrubs and plants located adjacent to the structure. Rake back any bark or rock.
   b. Devices: Water sprinklers and automatic lighting should be turned off as well as any other devices.
   c. Roof stuff: All obstructive articles (such as antenna guide wires, weather vanes, security cameras, etc.) must be removed. If we must remove any items we are not responsible for any damage and they will not be reattached.
   d. Wall, vines Etc.: Retract all awnings. If vines are attached to a trellis, they must be disconnected from the structure. Some trellis damage and killing of plants may still occur.
   e. Connecting structures: IMPORTANT! Notify your termite inspector and the fumigator, prior to the fumigation, of any conduits, tunnels, pathways, etc., connecting the structure being fumigated to any other structure. This may include TV cables, plumbing, gas pipes, vacuum lines or other connections.

7. Disclaimers
   a. Delays: Please keep in mind the fumigation may need to be rescheduled. If there are protected species of birds nesting in or on the building. If the weather is uncooperative. High winds and rain may hinder fumigation by creating a potential for harm to the fumigators. If the property is not prepared properly. We are not responsible for additional costs associated with any type of delay.
   b. Damages: We are not responsible if any of the following happens;
      i. When masking tape must be used for sealing purposes, paint or plaster may lift off when tape is removed.
      ii. We will exercise due care in our fumigation procedures, but broken roof tiles, gutters, solar units, foliage, or other inadvertent damages may result even with properly performed procedures.
      iii. Antennas not removed may break and will not be remounted as well as possible changes in TV reception after the fumigation is completed.
      iv. Flat roofs can accumulate water on the tarp if it rains and may exceed the weight capabilities of the roof.
      v. If a re-fumigation becomes necessary, Vital Signs Professional Real Estate Services, Inc. will not be responsible for any costs associated with preparation or vacating the premises.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know!
(310) 326-6939   www.VitalSignsTermite.com
Thank you for choosing Vital Signs Professional Real Estate Services, Inc.!
How to use Nylofume* bags to protect food and other commodities during fumigations with Vikane* gas fumigant.

Nylofume bags are made from a special nylon polymer film. Research has demonstrated that double-bagging, as shown below, achieves optimum protection.

All items such as food, feed, drugs, and medicine (including those items in refrigerators and freezers) must either be removed from the structure being fumigated or be sealed in protective Nylofume* bags.

To assure proper sealing and good protection, please follow these instructions carefully:

1. While bags are still empty, place one inside another. Double-bagging helps assure effective protection.

2. Place items to be protected inside the inner bag. Do not overfill — leave clearance on top for adequate closure of the bags.

3. Twist the top of the inner bag, fold once and secure the fold in place using a suitable fastener such as a twist tie, tape, rubber band, or string.

IMPORTANT: Keep these and other such bags out of children’s reach.

4. Repeat step 3 with the outer bag.

5. Check the seal by pressing gently against the sides of the bag and listening for air leaks. No air should be able to escape.

*Dow AgroSciences
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Vikane is a federally registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC.
To Bag Or Not To Bag... That Is The Question.

Protecting consumable items like food, feed and medicine is part of every fumigation with Vikane® gas fumigant. However, questions arise about which items need to be double-bagged in Nylofume® bags, and which items can remain in the structure unbagged during the fumigation. Here are some examples to guide you as you prepare your home for fumigation.

Bag these...

- Pretzels and other foods packaged in plastic bags need to be bagged or removed.
- Animal feed, like human food, needs to be bagged or removed.
- Foods packaged in cardboard boxes, like cereal, need to be bagged or removed because the interior plastic bag may not be airtight.
- Spices without their original manufacturer’s airtight seal intact must be bagged or removed.
- Eggs must be bagged or removed from the structure.
- Aspirin and other similar ingestable medicines need to be bagged or removed.
- Cottage cheese should be bagged or removed because resealable containers, including Tupperware and other storage containers, do not form airtight seals.
- Ice cubes should be discarded before the fumigation and the icemaker turned off.

No need to bag these...

- Unopened 2-liter plastic bottles with manufacturer’s airtight seal intact can remain unbagged. Shake 2-liter bottles to confirm that the airtight seal is still intact.
- Unopened canned products like soup may remain unbagged because unopened metal cans provide an airtight seal.

When in doubt, take it out...

- If there’s any question as to the seal on an item, the best approach is to take it out of the structure to be fumigated or to double bag it.