



Florida House of Representatives
Representative Doug Broxson
District 3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2015

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Rep. Doug Broxson Sponsors Termite Awareness in the Panhandle

GULF BREEZE – Rep. Doug Broxson (R-Gulf Breeze) is hosting several free public workshops for area residents to learn necessary steps to protect their greatest investment from costly Formosan termite damage. Annually, Formosan termites cause \$1 billion in damage in the United States, and our surrounding areas of Santa Rosa County, Okaloosa County and Escambia County are known hot spots for these aggressive pests. Florida's temperate climate provides a perfect environment for termites, and immediate signs of structural damage to a home may go undetected for long periods of time. Springtime serves as the breeding season for most species of termites, and Formosan termites will be swarming in May, so it is important for residents to understand what they can do in advance to protect their homes.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is collaborating with the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Science's Extension Offices in the Panhandle to educate homeowners about Formosan termites. Homeowners can learn methods for controlling this structural pest and protecting their homes by attending one of four educational meetings being held in the month of April. Homeowners are also encouraged to bring their pest control contract to one of these workshops for review. Specific topics include:

- Formosan termite biology including simple ways to identify them
- Available Formosan termite pest control protection for your home
- Florida law and building code pertaining to termites
- What you can do to recognize and fix the weaknesses in and around your home
- Bring your pest control contract for review by FDACS experts

Registration is encouraged, but not required.

Escambia County Meeting:

Tuesday, April 7, 2015, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Escambia County Extension, 3740 Stefani Road, Cantonment, FL 32533. Please contact Beth Bolles to register: bbolles@ufl.edu or (850) 475-5230.

South Santa Rosa County Meeting:

Thursday, April 9, 2015, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Tiger Point Community Center, 1370 Tiger Park Lane, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563. Please contact Johanna Welch to register: Johanna.Welch@FreshFromFlorida.com or (850) 363-5845.

North Santa Rosa County Meeting:

Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Santa Rosa County Extension, 6263 Dogwood Drive, Milton, FL 32570. Please contact Johanna Welch to register: Johanna.Welch@FreshFromFlorida.com or (850) 363-5845.

Okaloosa County Meeting:

Wednesday, April 15, 2015, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at Niceville Community Center, 204 Partin Drive, Niceville, FL 32578. Please contact Sheila Dunning to register: sdunning@ufl.edu or (850) 689-5850.

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