

## MANAGING PHORID FLY INFESTATIONS



The phorid or humpback fly breeds in, and feeds on, moist decaying organic matter, such as plants or animals. The flies can spread bacteria (germs) onto exposed food products or food preparation surfaces. People can become sick when they eat the food.

**Where are Phorid Flies found?** Adult phorid flies are found in many habitats but are most abundant around decaying plants and animals.

### Common Outdoor Breeding Areas include:

- Sewage-contaminated soil
- Exposed garbage
- Roadside drains that contain landscape clippings animal carcasses
- Rotting vegetables and fruit and other damp organic materials

### Common Indoor Breeding Areas include:

- Areas with moisture or plumbing leaks, like bathrooms, kitchens, or basements
- Garbage containers and garbage disposals

Flies are not always breeding in the areas where they are seen. Adult females will often fly to light, or actively seek out other breeding sites within a structure. Phorid flies easily follow air currents and may have several breeding places in any structure.

## How to Eliminate Phorid Flies:

- Clean and maintain indoor and outdoor areas in a sanitary manner.
- Remove potential breeding sites.
- Regularly clean trash containers.
- Clean and maintain plumbing drain lines and garbage disposals to be free from leaks and clogs.
- Repair any leaking or broken drain pipes.
- Fly trapping products that utilize a sticky surface may be effective in determining areas of infestation.
- Pesticides applied as space sprays will eliminate the adults but will not abate the infestation. Always read the pesticide label carefully and follow directions.

**The key to effective fly management is to find and eliminate all breeding sources through sanitation and moisture control.**

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