

Okaloosa County News Release



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Homeowners Should Prepare for Arrival of Formosan Termites in Panhandle *Okaloosa County/University of Florida Extension Office Education Series Apr. 15*

A homeowner education series will be held on invasive pests, the Formosan Termite, on April 15, at the Niceville Community Center located at 204 Partin Drive in Niceville. The educational event will be held from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m., as a team effort from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the UF/IFAS Extension. “Formosan termites begin swarming in May and we want homeowners to be prepared,” stated Extension Agent Sheila Dunning.

Topics covered include: how to identify the Formosan Termite, pest control for your home, Florida law and building code pertaining to termites and how to identify and fix any weakness at your home. Dunning also recommends bringing any pest control contracts you have for review. The Formosan subterranean termite (FST) acquired its name because it was first described in Taiwan in the early 1900s. Formosan subterranean termite, *Coptotermes formosanus*, is the most widely distributed and most economically important wood destroying insect.

For more information, contact the Okaloosa County/University of Florida Extension office at 850-689-5850 or visit <http://okaloosa.ifas.ufl.edu/blog/2015/03/20/formosan-termite-workshop/>.

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