

# Overview of Spiders

It is very important to stress to all homeowners that spiders do play a very important role in consuming insects around the exterior of our homes. For many rural countryside homes spider populations never escalate to the point of having to resort to anything more than normal mechanical control & relocation methods.

Where as inland lake & waterfront homeowners, spider populations can be literally overwhelming. From these homeowners points of view, seasonal control measures by a professional are essential. The negative impact spiders have on their properties is significant. The spiders unsightly abundance of daily webs. The acidic spider fecal matter staining their homes. Plus the gross intimidating appearance of literally hundreds of spiders hanging all over their home. Feeding on the abundant fly hatches coming off the lakes. Anyone living near a body of water in Ontario can attest to these unique fly hatch smorgasbords and spider feeding phenomena's on an annual basis.

Mechanical control measures, harborage-vegetation reduction, lighting reduction and power washing web deterrents all are just not beneficial solutions for these homeowners. Spider population reduction using professional, tailored control measures is a seasonal "must have" for these homeowners.

Did you know that a popular public misconception is that all spider venom is potentially lethal! Please keep in mind that of the thousands of spider species in North America only a few are considered a health threat ( Black Widow, Brown Recluse, Tarantulas ). Yet all have very important environmental importance. And of these few, rarely do we have any of these spiders in Ontario. Spiders rarely bite humans. The venom in most Ontario spiders isn't toxic to humans. People bitten definitely experience varying reactions of swelling, inflammation and discomfort from the venom for several days. Most of these bites occur when we accidentally brush up against a spider and the spider reacts feeling threatened. Or we unknowingly disturb an egg sac area and the provoked spider reacts to protect their young.

## **IMPORTANT!!**

### **Did you know!!!!**

Are you aware spiders are not insects. Spiders are recognized as non-insect arthropods, known as arachnids. Spiders have 8 legs, 6 to 8 eyes and only 2 body parts (cephalothorax and abdomen). Where as insects have 6 legs, normally 2 compound or up to 3 single eyes and 3 body parts (head, thorax and abdomen).