

# Fly Control for Restaurants

One of the most common challenges in the food service industry is dealing with flies. They can pose serious health risks by contaminating food and surfaces.



**House flies:** These are the most common types of flies found in restaurants. They are attracted to food and can transmit diseases by landing on surfaces after feeding on waste.



**Fruit flies:** Fruit flies are attracted to fermenting fruits and vegetables. These tiny flies can reproduce rapidly, leading to infestations if not controlled promptly.



**Gnats:** Gnats nest in the soil of gardens or indoor potted plants and feed on organic matter.

Some of the most common house fly diseases transmitted in the U.S. include food poisoning, dysentery, and diarrhea. These pests may also transmit the eggs of parasitic worms, which cause their own issues.

## Do's

- Keep areas around dumpsters clean
- Keep lids on indoor and outdoor trash cans
- Keep doors and windows closed
- Install screens on windows and doors
- Use fly control lights and zappers
- Keep surfaces clean of spills
- Store food items in sealed containers
- Look daily for spoiled or rotten foods
- Remove standing water
- Clean drains and garbage disposals
- Know when to hire a licensed pest control operator

## Don'ts

- Let trash build up around dumpsters
- Use unapproved containers as trash containers (e.g., cardboard boxes)
- Prop doors open during food deliveries
- Let screens become ripped or torn
- Use chemicals not approved for food establishments
- Use chemicals over food or food contact items
- Let food debris and messes build up
- Leave unpackaged food sitting out
- Store rotten or spoiled food
- Leave standing water where it is

Your staff plays an important role in fly control efforts. Educate your employees on hygiene practices and the importance of maintaining a fly-resistant environment.

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