

Fire Ants Invade Virginia Beach and Chesapeake, Va.

The invasion of Fire Ants in Hampton Roads has taken the region by surprise.

CHESAPEAKE, VA, UNITED STATES, May 12, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Fire [ants](#), long known for their painful stings and aggressive behavior, have officially made their way into Southeastern Virginia, including Virginia Beach and Chesapeake. Once primarily a problem in southern states, these invasive pests have steadily moved north due to warmer temperatures, increased soil movement, and human activity.

Fire ants, originally from South America, were first detected in parts of Virginia in the early 2000s but have become increasingly common in recent years. "These ants are highly territorial and will bite and sting when their mound is disturbed," said a George Pilkington from Universal Pest & Termite, a local leader in pest management for over 25 years. "They're small, but they pack a powerful sting that causes intense burning and itching."



Safe | Effective Ant Pest Control

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Pest Control for Fire Ants should be handled by a professional for long lasting results.”

Tanner Baine

immediate emergency care.

Yes, fire ant stings can put a human in the hospital, especially in cases involving:

- Allergic reactions – Some individuals may experience anaphylaxis, a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic response. Symptoms include difficulty breathing, swelling, dizziness, and a drop in blood pressure, requiring

- Multiple stings – Being attacked by a large number of fire ants—common when a mound is disturbed—can lead to serious swelling, infection, or systemic reactions, particularly in young children, the elderly, or people with compromised immune systems.

- Secondary infections – The pustules caused by fire ant stings can become infected if scratched or improperly treated.

In areas like Virginia Beach and Chesapeake, where fire ants are becoming more common, it's important to seek medical help if symptoms worsen after a sting or if someone is stung repeatedly.

Beyond being a nuisance to humans, fire ants can pose a danger to pets. Curious cats and dogs that unknowingly disturb a mound can suffer multiple bites and stings, leading to swelling, allergic reactions, and even veterinary emergencies in severe cases. Fire ants are especially dangerous to pets with short fur or sensitive skin.

Universal Pest & Termite is urging residents in Virginia Beach and Chesapeake to be vigilant and avoid contact with fire ant mounds, which typically resemble fluffy, loose dirt without a central hole. If you spot signs of fire ant activity or experience painful stings while outdoors, professional [pest control](#) treatment is recommended to prevent further spread and reduce risk.



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For more information on fire ant prevention or to schedule a safe and effective treatment,

contact Universal Pest & Termite at www.universalpest.com.

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