

“INSPECTOR KODY” - CANADA’S FIRST TERMITE DETECTING DOG DEMONSTRATES LATEST TECHNIQUE AND NEWEST TREND

Homeowners benefit from cost-effective, quicker
and more accurate detection of termite infestation.

“Since Purity does not treat for termites, the inspection will be totally unbiased.
Dogs Don’t Lie”

TORONTO - Vaughan based Purity Pest Control Limited today introduced “Inspector Kody”, Canada’s first and only highly trained termite detecting dog, who demonstrates the latest technique and international trend for finding termites in homes and commercial buildings.

“A trained pest management professional is approximately 35% accurate in detecting termites in a building because they can’t see behind walls. Due to a dog’s keen sense of smell, a dog can detect termites behind walls thus making it closer to 95% accurate,” said Michael Goldman, President of Purity Pest Control Ltd. and Common Scents Solutions, who owns Kody. “More accurate detection means that if there is an active termite infestation, Kody will alert us to it and control measures can begin, but if an active termite infestation is not detected, unnecessary use of pesticides can be avoided.”

In Canada, dogs have been successfully used by the military and law enforcement agencies to locate firearms, ammunition, explosives, narcotics, missing persons and accelerants used in suspected arson cases. The same training used for these purposes is now being used to train dogs to search for termites. Kody can smell through walls, floors and even underground - long before humans can see any visible signs. Kody can crawl into tight spaces that human inspectors cannot. Early detection can save thousands of dollars in concealed damage to homes or businesses.

How Does “Inspector Kody” Do His Work?

A termite dog must be correctly trained, led and interpreted. Once the dog has familiarized itself with the structure, the professionally trained handler guides the dog with special instructions on where to search. The handler observes and interprets his dog’s behaviour. Once termites are located, the dog performs what’s called a “passive alert”, where he will sit and point to the infested area.

Who are the main players?

The Common Scents Inspection Team consists of 3 key players:

“Inspector Kody”. Rescued from the Humane Society, this highly-trained termite sniffer spent over 600 hours learning how to detect termites and has a new outlook on life. Kody is re-certified annually by the Florida Canine Academy.

Michael Goldman. Michael owns Purity Pest Control Limited, a local GTA-based pest management company that now performs K-9 inspections for termites. He is re-certified annually by the Florida Canine Academy. Together, Kody and handler are internationally recognized.

Florida Canine Academy. Inspector Kody and Michael Goldman were both trained by Bill Whitstine, Certified Master Trainer and owner of the Florida Canine Academy. Bill received his Master Trainer certification from Maine State Police Canine Academy and Florida International University.

Science Behind The Nose... Amazingly Sensitive!

According to a report prepared by the Institute for Biological Detection Systems (IBDS) of Auburn University (Auburn, AL), dogs have the following capabilities:

Sensitivity: Documented limits of olfactory detection for the dog range from tens of parts per billion to 500 parts per trillion.

Discrimination: Dogs are extremely good at discriminating a target vapour from non-target vapours that are also present, even at relatively high concentrations of non-target odours.

Odour Signatures: When being trained to detect a substance, dogs learn to alert to one or two of its most abundant vapour compounds.

Multiple Odour Discriminations: Dogs can easily learn as many as ten odour discriminations.

Subterranean termites are found in southern Ontario, and the southern regions of British Columbia, Alberta, and Manitoba. In the United States, they are found in every state except Alaska. They are most abundant in warmer climates, where structural infestations are common. Subterranean termites are the most economically important wood-destroying pests in North America. They are, however, important components of natural forest ecosystems, where they break down cellulose. Unfortunately, when land is cleared for human habitation the termites present may eventually pose a threat to the wood used in construction because their natural food resources have been removed. North America wide, treatment and prevention of subterranean termite infestations costs approximately \$2 billion per year.

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