

# What To Do About Spiders

by Stanley Rachesky  
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The brown recluse spider, is it in Chicagoland? The answer is definitely yes. This past week 5 brown recluse spiders were positively identified by our office. All were from one residence in the Bloomingdale, Roselle, Keeneyville area of the western suburbs of Chicago.

Many area residents are concerned over the presence of this particular spider. In the past 4 years over 4,300 spiders have been submitted for identification. A total of only 12 have been identified as brown recluses.

This is the time of the year that many different kinds of spiders will gain entrance into your homes. They're seeking warmth and nesting sites for the winter.

All spiders are poisonous to some degree. They kill their prey by injecting them with their toxic substances. In Illinois we have 2 species of spiders which are considered poisonous to man; the brown recluse (violin spider) and the black widow. However, that doesn't mean that so-called non-poisonous species won't give you a problem. If you are an allergic-type person or hypersensitive to the toxin of these other spider species, you may exhibit symptoms of nausea, headache, abdominal cramps, general malaise, etc. after being bitten.

Because spiders feed on insects, they could be considered a beneficial type of animal, when they are found in their natural environment. However, when they're found in your environment, your home, it's now a question of family health and safety. When found living indoors, they should be controlled.

Your house can easily be made spider-free by foundation spraying with either chlordane or Diazinon. Both of these insecticides are readily available at your local garden center, hardware store, or farm supply.

These materials are applied as a spray around the outside foundation of your home. Treat 2 or 3 inches up on the foundation wall and the same distance out onto the soil. The average size home requires 4-6 gallons of the diluted spray material. Follow label directions carefully for dilution rates. These materials can also be applied indoors on the baseboard areas with a compressed air sprayer, paint brush, or in pressurized spray cans. Write for our University of Illinois brochure #887 — "Keep Outdoor Pests Out of Your Home" — Send a self-addressed, stamped (8¢) large size envelope.

## PHOTO QUIZ

### Answers

1. Inverness — Mike Bavier
2. Medinah — John Jackman
3. Indian Hill — Bill Saielli

Don't send answers in for a prize. There isn't any!

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