



2023 Termite Status Report

City of Guelph

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Building Services

2023 Executive Summary

Guelph's Termite Control Program

The City of Guelph had an introduced infestation of the eastern subterranean termite, *eticulitermes flavipes*, which the City has been tracking and combating since the 1970s. This insect pest can be difficult and expensive to control and can cause serious structural damage to wood frame structures and housing. In order to protect the housing stock of the City, and to prevent the continuous spread of this invasive species, the City implemented a comprehensive termite control program in 2007. Traditional termite control uses soil insecticides and wood preservatives to treat affected structures, but does not address the termite population, which continues to spread. The City's program integrated all traditional methods of pre-treatment and remedial treatment as well as preventative measures in new construction, termite habitat elimination, and termite population suppressive treatments.

Status of the Six Management Areas

The City had six termite management areas as shown in (Figure 1). However, due to complete inactivity for five consecutive years, the Emma-Pine management area was removed from further active management in 2017 and the Windermere management area was removed from further active management in 2019. Of the four remaining areas, the John Galt Park area, the King Street area, and Woolwich area, each had one active property with minor activity in the first half of the 2023 season. Figures 2 and 3 show the levels of activity in these areas from 2010 to 2023. Figure 4 shows the number of active properties and Figure 5 shows the number of termites trapped in these areas from 2010 to 2023 (Eastview area excluded). The Eastview management area, which was first discovered in the fall of 2019, only had minor activity in the first half of the 2023 season (see below). All areas are now being referred to as former termite management areas.

Eastview Management Area

Traps were inspected 17 times from May through October. A total of 26,732 termites were trapped from 7 active properties from 9 different active traps. This represented a 54.0% reduction compared to the previous year. Figure 6 shows the number of termites trapped on each inspection in the Eastview area. All activity was confined to the first half of the season. All properties appeared to be termite free in the last half of the season.

All of the early season active properties in the Eastview area were treated with nematodes in the spring and in mid-summer. In the fall, soil termiticide treatments were also applied to retaining walls, planters, or foundation walls in the vicinity of activity. Yard wood management actions included clean-up of woody debris and wood planters on a few properties.

Chemical treatments and inspections in 2023

Two remedial borate spray treatments were performed. Preventative soil termiticide treatments were performed on eight properties. In addition, two inspections were performed for real estate transactions, seven for building permits, and 50 disposal permits were issued.

Conclusion of the Active Monitoring Phase of the Program

With inactivity on all properties during the last half of the 2023 season we have now reached the status of “no known ongoing termite activity”. Termite monitoring traps were removed from all properties at the end of October. The City has now concluded the active monitoring phase of the program. Going forward, the City will enforce the provisions of the Ontario Building Code and the City’s Termite Control Bylaw on a property-by-property basis, if needed.

Recommendation for Ongoing Yard Wood Management

The possibility of termite resurgence from some small undetected population cannot be discounted. It is therefore strongly recommended that all homeowners in areas formerly known to have termites (Figure 1) continue to practice yard wood management. There should be no untreated wood in soil contact. It is important to remove dead trees, shrubs, stumps, and any surface wood from yards. Living trees should not be removed. No wood chip mulch should be used in landscaping. Acceptable alternative mulches include bark mulch, rubber mulch, cocoa bean mulch, and decorative stone or gravel. Firewood and lumber should be stack off the ground, on asphalt or patio stones.

When Selling a Property

With termination of the monitoring phase of the control project, the City is not certifying the absence of termites or that termites are completely eradicated. There is still the possibility that termites may exist in areas where not previously detected or that resurgence could occur in areas previously managed. Therefore, when selling a property in a previously infested area, it is recommended that prospective buyers be informed of previous termite activity in the area, and further consider having a termite inspection be performed by a licensed termite inspection company. We recognize that some properties in these areas may not have had termite activity for some time.

2023 Report

As with previous annual reports, the full 2023 report can be accessed on the City’s website at [guelph.ca/termites](https://www.guelph.ca/termites).

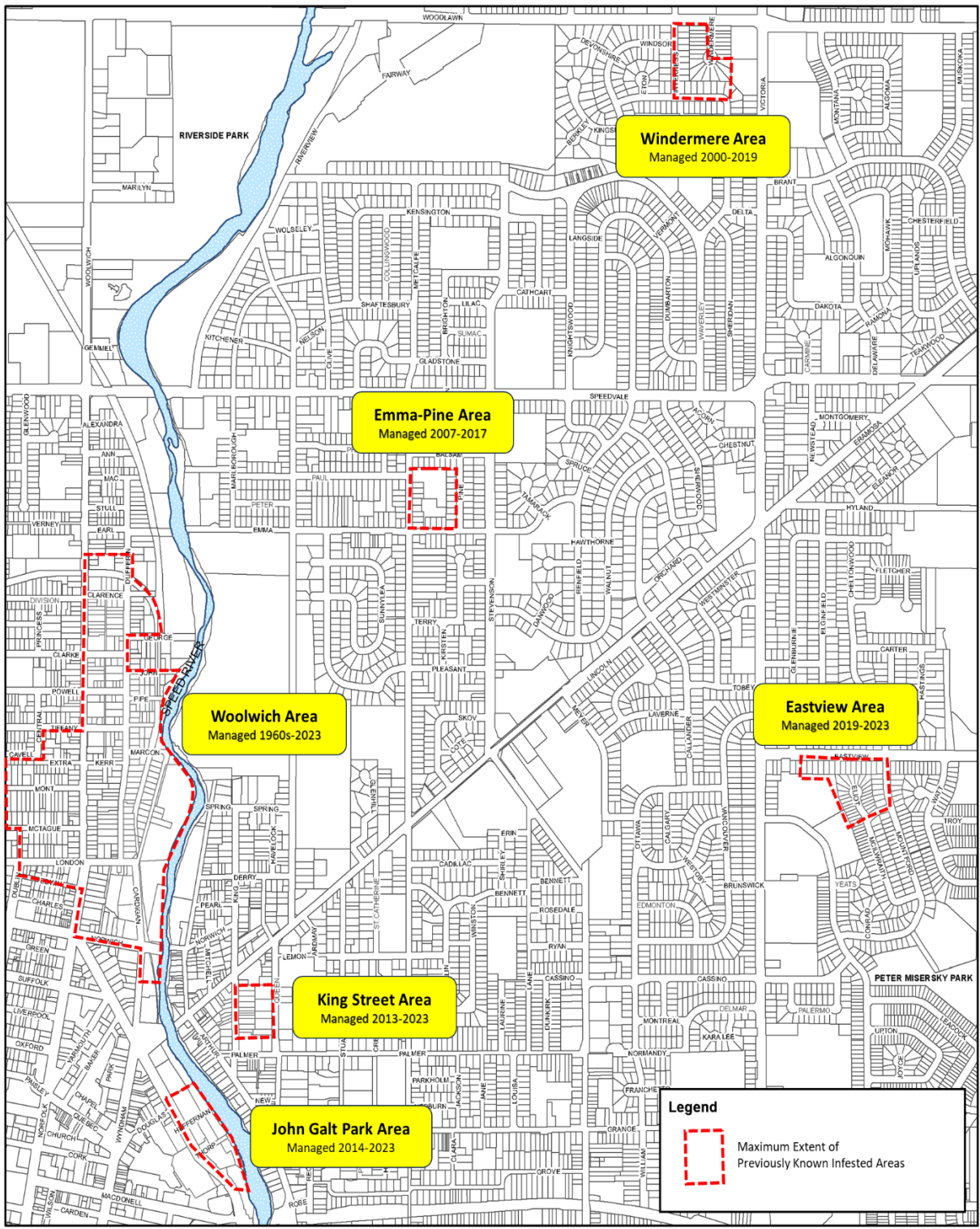


Figure 1. Maximum known extent of the previous termite infestation in Guelph's six former termite management areas.

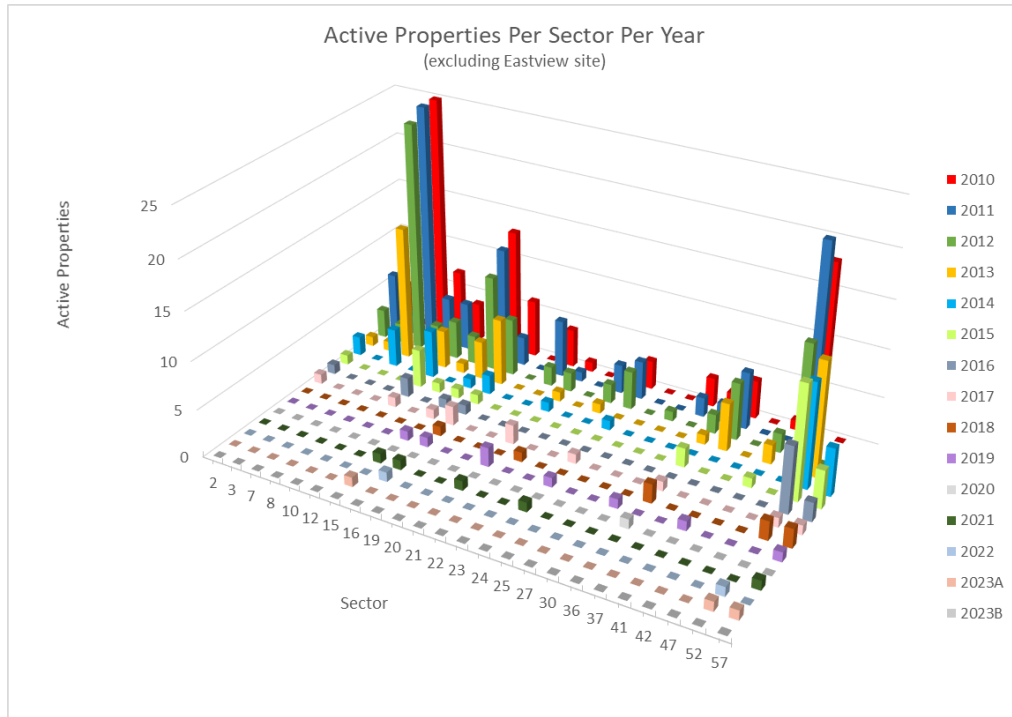


Figure 2. Active properties per sector per year 2010-2023.

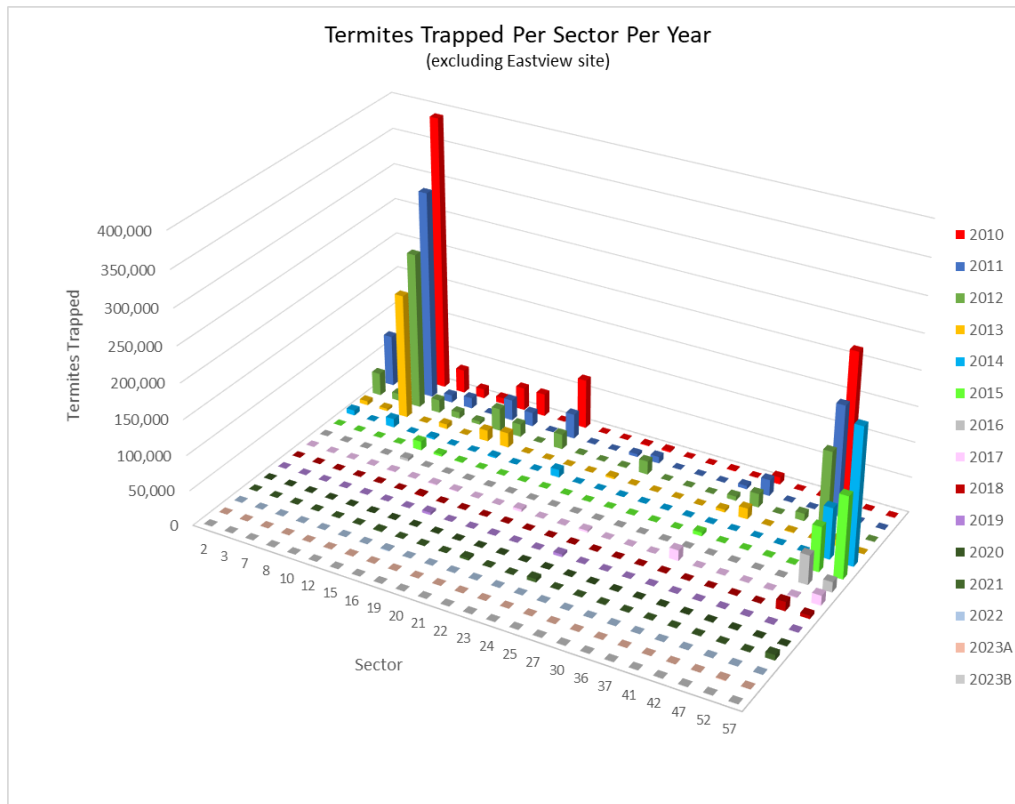


Figure 3. Total termites trapped per sector per year 2010-2023.

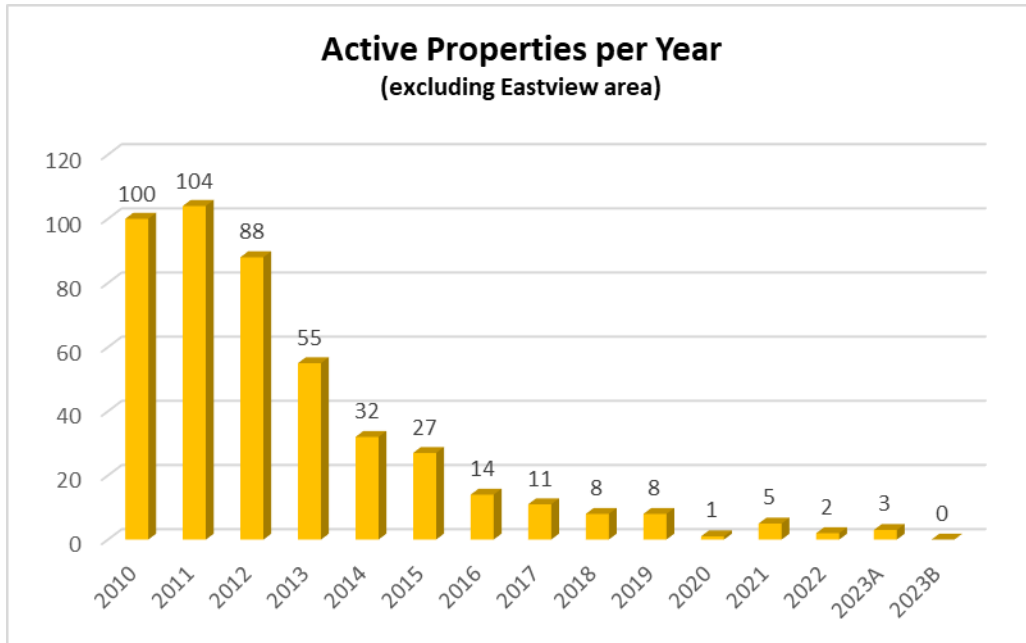


Figure 4. Total number of active properties per year 2010-2023.

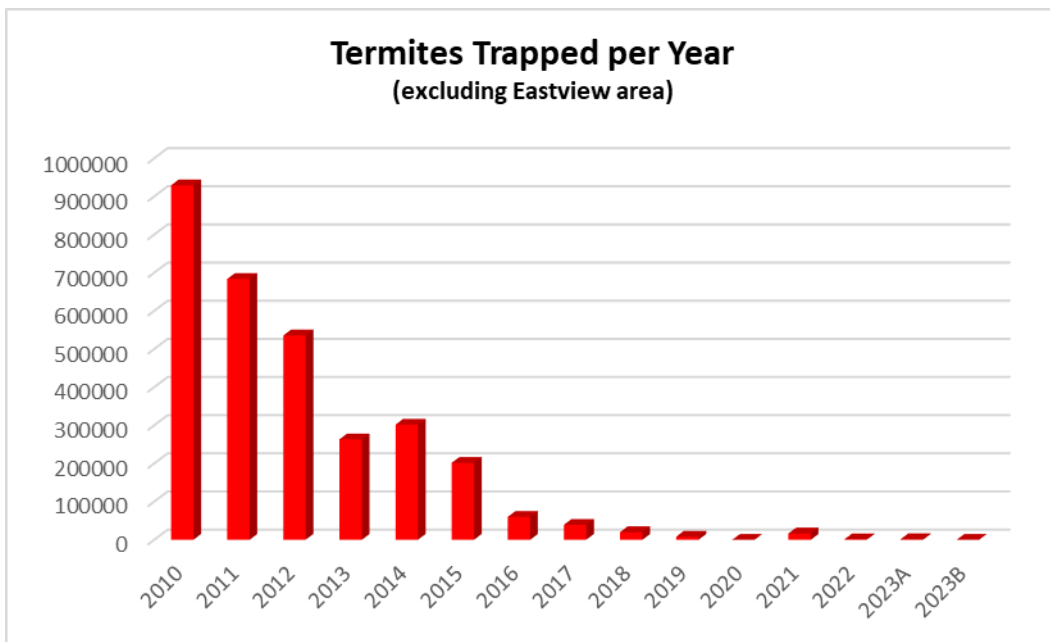


Figure 5. Total termites trapped per year 2010-2023.

Termites Trapped per Inspection Eastview Site (2020 - 2023)

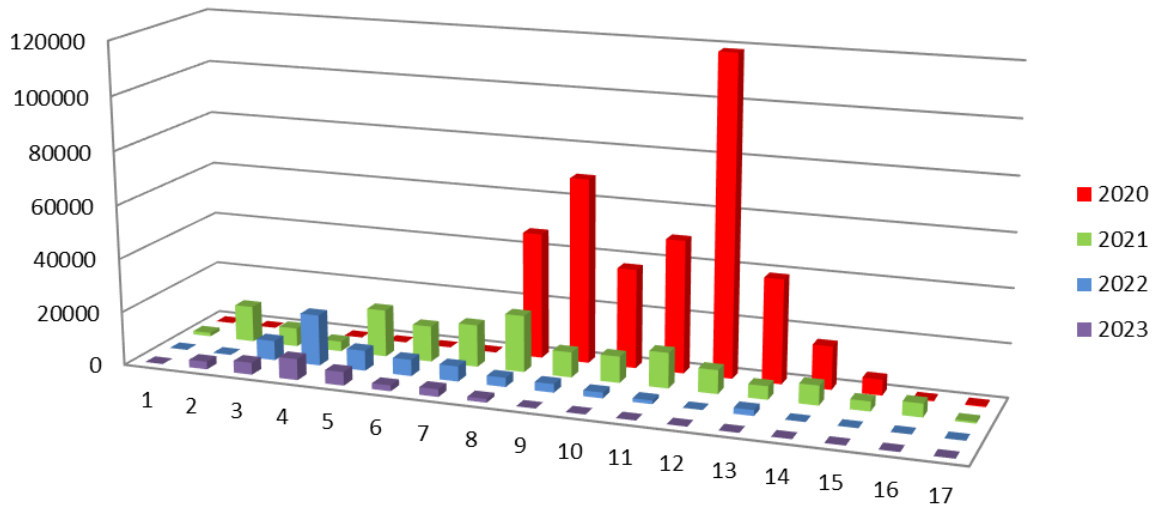


Figure 6. Termites Trapped per Inspection in the Eastview Area in 2020-2023.

Table 1. Number of Active Properties Per Red Zone (2007-2023)

No.	Sector No.	Year																	
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
																			May-July
1	2	4	4	4	4	6	3	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3				0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	7	17	23	23	25	25	24	14	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	8	3	6	5	7	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	10			4	4	5	4	4	5	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	12	0	3	4	4	1	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	15	4	7	8	13	12	10	4	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
8	16	8	6	4	6	3	6	7	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
9	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	20	1	2	6	4	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	21	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
12	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	23	3	2	2	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	24	1	0	1	3	4	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
15	25	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	27	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	30	4	2	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
18	36	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
19	37	3	3	4	4	6	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	41	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
21	42	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	47	13	12	14	18	21	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	52				0	0	0	12	11	12	7	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
24	57								5	4	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0
25	61														34	31	11	7	0
	Totals	68	77	87	100	104	88	55	32	27	14	11	8	8	35	36	13	10	0

2007 Initiation of comprehensive control program
2008-2009 Entomopathogenic nematode treatments
2019-2016 Trap-Treat-Release with Zinc Borate
2017-2023 Nematodes, borate rods, and spot chemical treatments

Table 2. Number of Termites Trapped Per Red Zone (2007-2023)

No.	Sector No.	Year																	
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
																			May-July
1	2	2,069	100,316	43,297	117,978	73,541	32,377	5,721	7,244	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3					2,864	10,128	3,479	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	7	8,112	307,782	246,585	389,776	298,183	223,814	178,614	12,459	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	8	1,838	37,295	13,120	33,383	10,596	18,687	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	10	0	0	1,133	13,293	15,275	9,163	6,837	2,515	12,869	3,655	896	0	105	0	0	0	0	0
6	12	0	279	11,923	8,485	50	4,693	3	0	2,810	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	15	4,186	16,753	16,221	32,430	29,633	32,039	15,814	50	793	3	1,000	1,621	174	0	1,179	0	410	0
8	16	2,817	23,061	5,573	32,269	19,816	18,329	21,052	1,974	45	95	982	0	3,488	0	0	983	0	0
9	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	20	0	26,610	31,406	70,521	35,309	21,395	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	21	0	1,603	0	25	434	724	0	10,950	0	0	3,525	45	97	0	2,814	0	0	0
12	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	23	0	15,742	4,231	1,241	4,131	969	2,596	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	24	0	0	1,245	2,375	9,467	19,020	0	71	0	0	2,551	0	3,673	0	4,786	0	0	0
15	25	1,848	3,985	3,934	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	30	0	0	395	1,042	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	36	0	3,542	3,513	0	4,806	6,048	3,758	0	5,219	0	15,060	350	10	0	0	0	0	0
19	37	0	6,590	4,521	10,121	22,887	19,418	15,286	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	42	0	1,520	1,693	741	0	10,519	889	0	239	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	47	1,333	160,183	101,020	215,556	156,801	108,242	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,793	72,571	63,507	41,500	1,052	12,983	0	0	0	72	855	0
24	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	193,908	115,956	14,590	13,907	4,783	60	0	7,659	0	32	0
25	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	388,077	151,281	58,114	26,732	0
	Totals	22203	705,261	489,810	929,236	683,793	535,565	263,142	301,742	201,438	59,843	38,982	19,782	7,607	388,077	167,719	59,169	28,029	0

2007 Initiation of comprehensive control program
2008-2009 Entomopathogenic nematode treatments
2019-2016 Trap-Treat-Release with Zinc Borate
2017-2023 Nematodes, borate rods, and spot chemical treatments

Table 3. Termite Inspections by Year and Type

Year	Real Estate	Building Permits	Material Disposal	Total
2007	25	17	100	142
2008	44	19	128	191
2009	40	19	256	315
2010	38	24	156	218
2011	41	48	200	289
2012	18	21	208	247
2013	36	23	253	312
2014	19	18	278	315
2015	29	21	155	205
2016	44	22	177	243
2017	25	42	201	268
2018	25	35	143	203
2019	12	20	95	127
2020	13	9	66	88
2021	4	3	33	40
2022	3	6	30	39
2023	2	7	50	59