

FLEA CONTROL

BEFORE TREATMENT

[] **TREAT THE PET** The cat or dog is the place the flea wants to be most. They take their blood meal and lay eggs on the hairs. If you don't treat the pet you may never get rid of them. The eggs are very slippery, so wherever the animal likes to lay may be the highest concentrations of fleas. Also, when the animal shakes some eggs can go flying! There are many over the counter products for treating pets, or talk to your vet about recommended flea products.

[] **PICKING UP** We need to treat as much of the carpet and flooring as possible, so please have items off the floor including toys, shoes, clothes, magazines, etc. **Don't forget items under the beds and other furniture!**

[] **VACUUM** Needs to be done heavy and thoroughly. Flea eggs fall off pets onto the furniture, carpets, rugs. If the animal lays under a bed or on the furniture, you need to vacuum under these and the cushions! The larvae seek out dark areas after hatching. Flea larvae feed on adult flea fecal matter, it is an important part of their feeding. Also vacuuming stimulates pre-adult fleas to emerge from the pupa stage so more will die from the spray. You should dispose of the bag afterwards, and occasionally with follow-up vacuuming. ***If you are going to have your carpets cleaned, do it before treatment, or else wait until fleas are completely gone!** Pet bedding should be washed or disposed of if heavily infested.

[] **SCHEDULING** Everyone including the animals must be out of the house until the products have dried. Plan on 3 to 5 hours, depending on weather and carpet thickness. Turn off fish tanks and cover if uncovered. Birds and other small animals should be removed also. After the flooring is completely dry it is safe to be on.

AFTER TREATMENT

* You may still see occasional fleas after treatment, sometimes up to three weeks, until the flea lifecycle breaks. If you have not seen any improvement after a couple days, give us a call so we can come and see if an additional area needs treatment, or if it was missed or not properly prepared.

* No one likes to vacuum, but daily vacuuming does help shorten the time to elimination. Don't forget the pet's bed and laying areas. Occasionally you might change the bag, or you can put a mothball or two in the bag to kill them. The turbulence in the vacuum alone can do damage to fleas.

* Continue treating the pet, and wash pet bedding weekly until infestation is gone. Doing this regularly can help prevent re-infestations. Talk to your veterinarian about the best flea treatment plan for your pet.

CULLEN PEST CONTROL