



Jim Zylstra



# Insect tips

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## Wasps, Wasps, Wasps

Although many wasps exist in North America, the two species most common are Bald Faced Hornets and Paper Wasps.



Bald Faced hornets are actually wasps. They are black with white or yellow stripes around their thorax and abdomen.

They're about one inch long, can fly very fast and are aggressive. Bald faced hornets create a nest which is grey and round. It ranges from softball to beach ball size. These nests are made from cellulose and are quite strong. Likely nest sights include trees, shrubs and around overhangs of buildings.

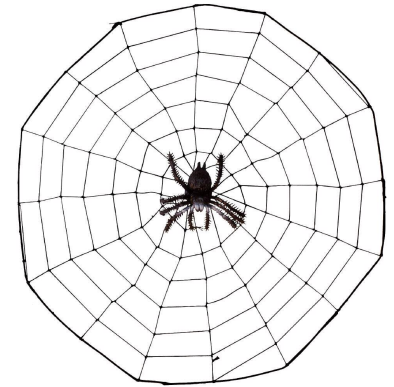
Paper wasps vary in color. Some are black and yellow, black and red, or brown and red. They build nests in the same places as bald faced hornets. These nests are usually smaller in size and population. Many times these nests are in cracks of wood and cannot be seen. The wasp will nest in between siding, insulation and any other void they can find underneath soffits, around gutters and windows. Paper wasps do not fly as fast as bald faced hornets and are generally not as aggressive. If activity is high, just watch from a distance and chances are you will quickly locate where the main nest sight is located. It is quite common to find them

### Q&A

**Q:** We have a pool and always have wasps around it, why is that?

**A:** If it is hot or dry and you have a bird bath, a pool or some other water supply, expect wasps to find your "offering". As the moisture evaporates into the air, wasps and other insects will detect it's presence. This will attract them to the area and once found, "word" will be out on the street. In other words, expect more and more of the local population of wasps and other insects to come around. Our treatments will take care of any nests, but it is very difficult to control a passing visitor.

flying around people since they are attracted to moisture and sweet odors. They will readily fly toward sweat, perfume, food, flowers, dead insects and other things commonly found around the home.



## Fun Facts About Spiders

- There are nearly 40,000 species of spiders world-wide and about 3,800 in the US.
- Spiders range in size from small enough to balance on the tip of a pencil to almost 14 inches in diameter.
- The average person will encounter some 50 different kinds of spiders in their lifetime. Of those, only about a dozen are capable of piercing the skin with their fangs.
- Spider silk is the strongest natural fiber known. It's exuded as a liquid and hardens when the spider pulls it. It will stretch up to 1/3 of its original length without breaking.
- Components of spider venom show promise in medical research, including areas of Alzheimer's and Lou Gehring's disease and even in preventing permanent brain damage in stroke victims.

