



## What's Next For Wasps Nests?

You may be like one of my recent homebuyers who, upon inspection, found multiple wasps' nests in the attic. "We want the seller to remove them, our kids are scared to death, but he says it's too much trouble and we are not sure whether we should be worried?"

You should not be worried. Wasps abandon their nests annually and build new ones. Furthermore, even if a new nest appears, it is unlikely to be hazardous to your family if it occurs at attic altitude. I have heard some people wanting to close off access to an attic to keep wasps out but that is impossible if it is a ventilated roof.

Calm down, and let's

think about this. First, an old nest is of no concern. Second, a new nest would only be of concern if it is proximate to your family – e.g. by a door or window, beneath the eaves near a bedroom window, or under a deck. Otherwise, the wasp is your friend and feeding on local aphids and mosquitoes. They charge no fees for this service.

Pest controllers will tell you that they rarely remove old nests unless they are an eyesore and easily accessible. If they receive a call to remove a live, current year nest that is potentially hazardous they first will try to physically remove it. If this fails for lack of access, they have options ranging from a gaseous aerosol to a blown

-in pesticide dust that will terminate these little guys.

When children (or adults) are afraid of the unknown, a little education opportunity arises and you should talk about this with them. A Pest Control company, such as Pied Piper, is always happy to provide information on the telephone and explain your options but an old nest is just like an old shell on the beach, used to be someone's home but they don't live there anymore.

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