DEANS SERVICES Buzz
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4,000 BEAGLES

A Message for Our Canine Companions

By Juliana K. Shead, Canine Caretaker

Since Deans began using Termite-Detection K9s, we've cared for nine unique and talented dogs; some of which were adopted from rescue shelters and trained to work in scent detection.

Our current beagles – Clover, Maple, and Scout – enjoy hunting for termites and being rewarded with treats. At the end of each day, they go home with their human families where they enjoy playtime with their favorite toys, go on walks, and of course receive lots of affection!

When they're not hunting termites, Maple (left) and Clover love to socialize with their human workmates.

We at Deans believe that if animals are used in the service of bettering the lives of humans, their contribution should be rewarded with kindness and compassion. That's why it was with heavy hearts that we recently learned of a mass-breeding facility for beagles and the intervention in need of support.

According to reports, approximately 4,000 beagles – many of which were puppies – were found living in inhumane conditions. Some of the dogs were reserved for animal testing laboratories. In many cases, when such experiments end, the dogs are no longer needed and are typically killed.

The Humane Society was able to intercede and rescue the 4,000 helpless dogs. But there's still much work to be done in transporting, caring for, and rehoming these animals.

Because this story hits close to home, Deans has supported their efforts by making a donation and we hope to raise additional awareness and support by sharing this story.

Additionally, thru October 1st, for every Deans customer that adds our Termite Program, Deans will donate $100 toward this special beagle rehoming mission.

We hope these dogs will go on to live a happy life and perhaps, like our own, go on to protect and enrich the lives of their human companions.

Hungry, Helpful Herptiles

Matthew Ouellette, Termite Specialist

Here in Florida, we have a variety of invasive pest species. But there's one invasive species that serves as a nat-ural form of pest control — the anole.

Anoles (uh·NŌL·eez) are small lizards ranging in size from 3 - 7”. The two most common varieties are the brown anole and the green anole. The green anole is native to Florida and is able to color from a vibrant green to light brown to camoflage itself from predators. The brown anole, an invasive species from The Bahamas, typically lives lower to the ground than its leafy-colored cousin.

By hiding in plain sight, the green anole stays safe from predators like snakes, birds, and larger lizards.

What makes these anoles helpful to homeowners is their diet. These insatiable insectivores eat ants, roaches, spiders, flies, and anything else small enough to fit in their jaws!

Yes, all the pests we hate seeing inside our houses are on the menu for anoles! In fact, some will even stand guard through the night, feeding on moths, beetles, and other nocturnal insects. Given their around-the-clock patrolling, it's no wonder they can help keep pest populations in check.

Anoles feed on a variety of pests, including large roaches, spiders, and even termite swarmers!

Despite their benefits, we know lizards can sometimes get too close for comfort – so, for those of you who prefer they keep their pest control efforts to themselves, here are a few tips to discourage their presence:

DEANS QUICK TIPS!

RESTRICT

Lights around doors attract bugs...and bugs attract lizards. Occasionally they slip inside where they can't escape. **Replace worn door sweeps** especially those on sliding glass doors to help lizards stay outside where they belong!

RELOCATE

Anoles are territorial, so it's common to see the same lizard frequenting the same place (often our patio furniture). To remove the uninvited guest, quickly toss a dishtowel over it, **scoop it up, and gently release it** to another area 40' - 50' away.

REDUCE

A pest control program will help **reduce the food** that attracts lizards in the first place, but because small insects will always be present outside, you should expect to see a few lizards as well.

While anoles can help, they can't do it all. Deans works with nature when performing our pest applications around your home so you can get the best of both worlds and keep your home pest-free!

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