



Amey VIVO

Working with



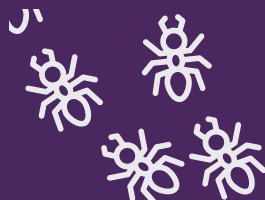
Defence  
Infrastructure  
Organisation

# Summer in your Service Family Accommodation

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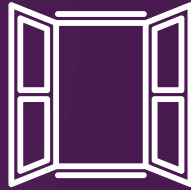
## Tips and advice

This guide provides advice on how to prepare for the summer in your Service Family Accommodation, and how to respond should an issue arise.



# Things to do

## Check window restrictors



These stop a window opening too far so accidents can be avoided. If they're missing or broken in your upstairs rooms, contact the National Service Centre to arrange for them to be fitted or fixed.

## Keep your garden tidy



Overgrown lawns, litter, food and pet waste can increase the chance of pests in or near your home.

## Take action when going away

If you're going away over the warmer months, you can put in place a few measures to reduce the risk of something going wrong:

- **Ask a trusted friend or neighbour to look after your house keys** so they can make checks on your home.
- **Turn your water off.** Hot weather can cause burst pipes so it's worth locating your stopcock and turning the water off while you're away. The stopcock is the little tap or lever on pipes, often found under your sink.
- **Unplug electricals** to reduce bills and minimise fire risks.



## Practice barbecue safety



Make sure your BBQ is on a flat surface away from any shed, trees and bushes.

## Book your moves



Hundreds of military families move over the summer. If you're moving, make sure you book this as early as possible to get an appointment that works for you.

# Things to know

## Bird nesting season



- Bird nesting season runs from March-August. This restricts some of the work that can be carried out on homes. In advance of nesting season, VIVO and Amey undertake grounds maintenance programmes including hedge-cutting and tree pruning.
- Even in nesting season, please do still report tree safety concerns so action can be taken to keep your family safe. Providing photos of the issue will help VIVO and Amey assess severity.
- Other issues, such as nests on a chimney, will be resolved following nesting season – unless they're causing a serious health and safety issue.

## Hosepipes



- When hosepipes have been sitting in direct sunlight, run the water through before using them. Water trapped inside can become extremely hot and may cause burns.
- Avoid drinking from hosepipes. Standing water inside can harbour bacteria and isn't safe for consumption.
- Before filling paddling pools or using spray attachments, flush the hose for 2-3 minutes to clear stagnant water. This flushed water is still fine to use on plants and grass.
- Store hoses out of direct sunlight when not in use, and drain and disconnect them from the tap at the end of summer to help reduce bacterial growth.

## Bees and wasps



If bees are swarming outside your property, it's best to avoid the area as they typically move on within a couple of hours.

- If you find an active wasp nest inside or outside your property, call the National Service Centre. Wasps nests outside will be dealt with **12 working days**, and those inside within 48 hours.
- If there's an active bees nest inside your property, call the National Service Centre. This will be dealt with within 48 hours.
- As bees are endangered, VIVO and Amey cannot attend **outdoor bee issues**. However, if they are posing a serious risk, they will arrange for specialists to attend.

## Ants, bugs and beetles



- The majority of cases of ants, bugs and beetles can be dealt with using off-the-shelf treatments available in supermarkets.
- If there is an active nest inside the property call the National Service Centre. Ants are typically dealt with within **12 working days**.

## Contact Details

**Something need fixing or need to report an issue?** Contact Pinnacle's National Service Centre on **0800 031 8628**. They will then book an appointment with Amey or VIVO to resolve the issue.

## Further information

For more summer advice, please visit [www.pinnacleservicefamilies.co.uk/summer](http://www.pinnacleservicefamilies.co.uk/summer)



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