

## The Horror of No Hot Water and the Unlikely Culprit

Bogong moths can cause pesky problems around your home – make sure you're prepared with these helpful hints



October-November is the time when the moths migrate from warmer climates in Queensland to the cooler highlands of the Victorian Alps, Snowy Mountains and South-eastern Australia (while the rest of us do the opposite).

Apart from the somewhat terrifying #mothpocalypse (see Parliament House 2013) that can sometimes occur, and the nuisance which comes from being constantly surrounded by the little creatures and their flapping noises, the moths can pose a bigger problem for your home by disrupting appliances such as hot water systems and heaters.

They can cause havoc for security systems which are tripped as they fly around, as well as fire alarms and air conditioning units. In the mid 1970s they even caused lifts to fail due to the huge numbers which were taking refuge inside buildings.

Around your home they like to crawl into outside gas hot water systems as they are warm and dry places for them to sleep, not to mention that the glow of the flame is irresistibly attractive! But if too many get inside, they can cause the pilot light to go out, and leave you with no hot water!

This is a really common occurrence in spring and summer, so be prepared and save yourself a cold shower!

One easy fix is to attach a fine mesh cover across any possible access points to stop the moths getting in.

If they do get in, make sure you know how to re-light the pilot light on your gas hot water system.

**If you can't get the pilot light to ignite again, or if you find yourself without hot water for any reason, you can always call us on 6288 5123 and we will be happy to help you out!**

