

Background Information about Bed Bugs:

- Bed bugs have not been a problem in the United States for nearly 40-50 years. However, over the last five years they have once again re-emerged as a pest and are now spreading through hotels, apartments, college residence halls, health care facilities, day care centers, and even office buildings throughout the country.
- Bed bugs are not a sign of bad sanitation, any home can become infested regardless how dirty or clean it is.
- Bed bugs must be introduced into an environment and do not fly, jump, or infest people.
- While it is true that bed bugs feed on the blood of humans, they have not been shown to be capable of transmitting any diseases.
- Control of bed bugs requires patience and cooperation along with a diligent management program implemented by a pest management professional.

Detection of Bed Bugs:

- Early detection of bed bugs is very important and will greatly facilitate the ability of pest management professionals to gain control in an efficient manner.
- Waking up each morning with bites that were not present the night before is an indication that bed bugs may be present. Bites can occur anywhere on the body, but are most prevalent on the upper body (arms, shoulders, and neck) or lower body (calf area). Not all people react to bed bug bites, however, in many people the bite will appear as a welt or rash and will often occur in rows of two or three bites. In this instance, you may want to consider contacting your representative campus housing office.
- Bed bugs may be seen actively crawling in the room, particularly during the evening hours or when the room is dimly lit. Adult bed bugs are about 3/16-inch long and 1/8-inch wide and are reddish brown in color. Immature bed bugs are much smaller (newly emerged bed bugs are only 1mm in length) and tend to be pale in color.
- Blood stains or smears on sheets, pillow cases, or along the edges/corners of mattresses are another sign that bed bugs may be present. They are typically a tar black color.

Service Call Criteria:

Our service, based upon our findings, may consider the employment of one or more of the following control measures:

- Basic or Intensive inspection of visible evidence of bed bugs or related obvious signs with recommendation.
- Physical removal of visible bed bugs and eggs with a vacuum
- Physical destruction of bed bugs and eggs using steam
- Encasement of mattresses to aid in future inspections and limit the number of areas that bed bugs can hide on the mattress.
- Application of target specific pesticides when and where appropriate.

What Should You Expect:

Bed bugs and their eggs may be located in areas that are inaccessible during treatment. Over the days and weeks following the initial treatment eggs may continue to hatch and bugs emerge from concealed hiding places. A follow-up program will be in place to address the continued activity however due to the nature of the biology and behavior of bed bugs it is not unusual to expect the following:

- 1. You may see an increase in bed bug activity a few days following treatment as the population has been disturbed as hiding places are eliminated.**
- 2. Bed bugs are likely to be seen between visits but should get less with each visit until they are eliminated.**
- 3. You may continue to experience some bites until every last bug has been eliminated.**
- 4. Clearance may not be achieved for 45 days.**

What Not to Do:

1. Do not throw away items or remove them from your room, it may spread the problem.
2. Do not attempt to control bed bugs on your own, leave it to the experts.
3. Do not change your sleeping location, this is not a solution and may spread the problem Do not remove anything from your room or throw anything away that you think may be infested with bed bugs, without contacting your representative campus housing office.
4. Do not use any pesticides in your room.

What Can You Do to Help?

1. Clean up clothes and general clutter throughout the room. This takes away bed bug hiding places and is important in eliminating the problem.
2. Launder the items that have been bagged. A hot wash or hot dry cycle for 30 minutes will kill all stages of bed bugs.