

Bed Bug Preparation and Instruction Guide

To properly treat and eliminate bed bugs, we need your cooperation to prepare as follows:

- **Every article of clothing and bedding has to be cleaned** (heat treated = 20 minutes on high in dryer) before being returned to dressers/closets AFTER service; all clothing from closets and drawers including winter coats must be heat treated/cleaned then stored in clean garbage bags until after house has been serviced and thoroughly vacuumed.
- Heat treat, dry clean or wash/dry **all bedding**, including blankets, pillows, decorative pillows, shams, bed skirts and curtains. Store in clean garbage bags until after service.
- Inspect and bag all shoes, boots, slippers or other footwear for live bed bugs; store in clean garbage bags until after service.
- Inspect all wall hangings, picture frames, nick nacs, books, decorative items, any items on display, electronics, and lamps for bed bugs. Vacuum to remove any found.
- Wash/clean all toys and heat treat (except plastic & electronics!) all stuffed toys, pillows; then store in clean garbage bags until after service has been done.
- **If mattresses and box springs have covers, please remove them before service. BED BUG PROOF covers must be placed on both mattresses and box springs after service** has been completed and remain on for up to 18 months. Immediately repair any rips or tears.
- **All bagged items need to remain bagged until after service**; all dressers and drawers need to be emptied; all closets – especially the floors – then all bagged items need to be heat treated, washed and dried or dry cleaned before returning to dressers, which have been vacuumed thoroughly.
- For packing/bagging, we recommend **clear garbage bags** for bagging clothing, bedding, and toys so bed bugs can be visible if the bag contains any.
- **Fish tanks need to be covered with plastic wrap and air stone unplugged/removed; birds and reptiles must be out for a minimum of 4 to 6 hours; cats and dogs 4 hours.**
- **Everyone, including all pets, need to remain out for a minimum of 4 hours. Upon return, open doors and windows to air out if there is any odor.**
- Wash all eating, cooking, food preparation, and serving surfaces (table, counter, stove) before use.
- Do not wash off any residue from baseboards; any residue on furniture may be wiped with a dry cloth/paper towel.
- **Vacuum** all bedrooms, bed frames, mattresses/box springs, couches, upholstered chairs, etc, at least two to three times a week until no more bed bugs are seen (up to a month).
- Houseplants are unaffected.
- Anyone that has a respiratory or heart condition, may be pregnant, children under 2, or have chemical sensitivity may remain out for 24 hours but a minimum of 6 hours.
- Service can take up to 2 and ½ hours to complete, depending on number of bedrooms, bed sets and amount of upholstered furniture.

Bed bugs may be seen up to 30 days after treatment. Once they cross the dry insecticide, it will take 2 to 3 days for them to die. **Vacuuming is very important and needs to be done 2 to 3 times a week**, as well as the cleaning/heat treating of all articles of clothing and bedding.

Any other questions, please call the office.

Your appointment is scheduled for: _____





"Protectors of Health, Property and Environment"

After Bed Bug Service cleaning and vacuuming is important to eliminate all bed bugs!

- After service, use a vacuum with a hose attachment and crevice tool to **thoroughly** vacuum all bedrooms, bed furniture, living room furniture, and living room. Make sure to empty bag or cup **outside** to prevent any from escaping.
- Once **mattresses and box springs** are **dry**, wrap in **Bed Bug PROOF** covers which can be purchased online, or at Walmart, Target, Home Depot Stores, Walgreens. **All bed sets and both mattress and box spring must be wrapped!**
- Heat treat (30 minutes on high in the dryer) all stuffed animals, shoes, and items that can withstand the high heat in a dryer. Scrub all plastic toys with soap and hot water, rinse thoroughly, or place in dishwasher if they can tolerate the heat!
- Inspect all floor (and table) lamp bases, pole and shades, vacuum up any bed bugs found.
- Inspect all curtain rods, hooks and brackets – vacuum! Heat treat curtains that will tolerate the heat, and vacuum shades.
- Move beds (and living room upholstered furniture) away from walls so they do not touch any walls.
- Purchase bed bug *climb-up interceptors* or comparable trap (available online, Home Depot, Walmart, most drug stores) and place under all bed frame feet. Do not leave mattresses on floors, place on bed frame. Air mattresses **do not prevent bed bugs**, only prevents them from living inside the mattress and allows them access to a blood meal easily because it's on the floor close to where they crawl.
- Vacuum all rooms thoroughly several times a week **for several weeks until you see no more bed bugs**, paying particular attention to bed rooms, bed frames, baseboards and around all furniture in all seating and sleeping areas. Vacuum edges of upholstered furniture, backs, seats, especially seams and sides.
- Thoroughly vacuum dressers, remove drawers and vacuum inside the dresser itself as well as inside and bottoms of all drawers paying particular attention to the inside bottom edge and back of the dresser.
- Re-examine all toys, books, CD/DVD cases, pictures on walls, knicknacs, decorative items for bed bugs before putting them back. Vacuum/capture any bed bugs seen or found.
- Weekly inspect and launder all bedding; heat treat pillows, quilts and blankets.
- Weekly examine the back, side and bottom of furniture in bedroom and living room for bed bugs -- vacuum thoroughly.
- For anything that cannot be heat treated, Home Depot has a product that can be used to treat bed bugs on items that cannot be heat treated – you must **read the label and understand the instructions before use!**
- Before putting items away, inspect shelves, dressers and closets for bed bugs; vacuum up any found. Reline dressers and shelves with dry shelf paper before putting items away.
- **If you throw furniture, or bedding out --Destroy it so no one else can pick up!**

To prevent another infestation –

- Limit visitors you know have bed bugs, if at all possible. If they do visit, seat them on non-upholstered seating.
- Don't accept used furniture such as mattresses or box springs, bedroom furniture, bed frames, couches, chairs or used clothing, toys and shoes.
- If you've been in a home that has bed bugs, once in your house/apartment, immediately remove, bag, (and launder) all clothing worn. Inspect shoes for any bed bugs (and bag as a precaution).
- When visiting, do not leave or place personal belongings on the floor, don't sit on upholstered furniture or place personal belongings or items on upholstered furniture, and place items (book bags, purses, etc.) on a table or non-upholstered chair.
- Avoid upholstered booths, furniture, and benches in public or waiting places.

It may take up to 30 days or more to entirely eliminate bed bugs with your cooperation and help! Once they cross the insecticide, it may take up to 3 days for them to die so vacuum immediately ANY bed bugs seen to capture and prevent a possible pregnant female from laying more eggs prior to dying. If you see one, capture and destroy it!

Cleaning is the most important factor in eliminating bed bugs after a professional pest control service. Bed bugs crawl, they **do not jump or fly**. **They do not bite like fleas, ticks, or mosquitoes!** Eggs can hatch in 30 days, under ideal conditions (heat and blood meal). It takes a bed bug anywhere from 5 to 20 minutes to feed– generally, you will not feel them feeding because they anesthetize the area first and is usually while you are sleeping. Feeding sites generally will not show until after 12 hours or longer -- up to two weeks, while some show no visible signs, or are not bitten. After repeated bites, individuals become sensitized to the saliva and show irritation at bite sites within 12 hours or less.



406 Connecticut Street, Buffalo, New York 14213 (716) 884-7431 Toll Free: 877-475-3723