

H.A.W.C.

Opens Doors

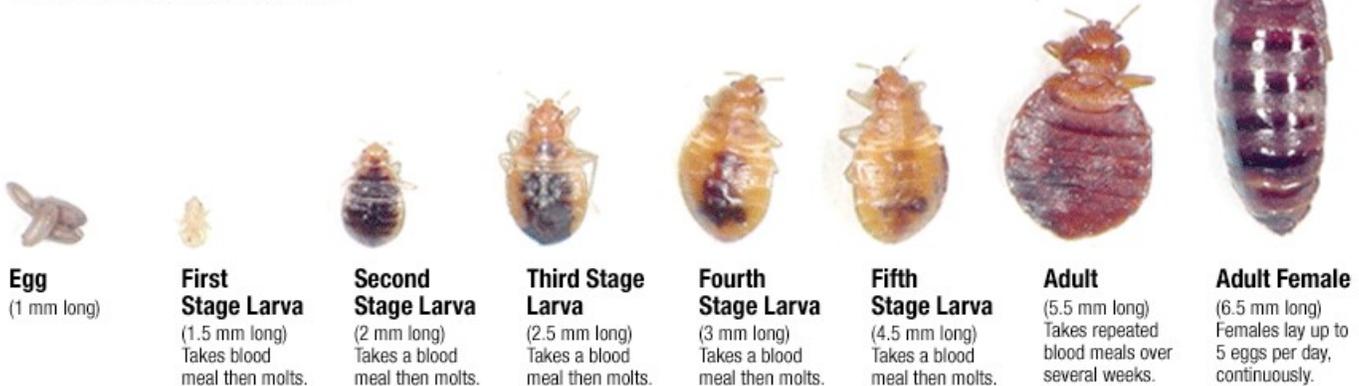
Bed Bug Protocol

Identifying Bed Bugs:

- Bed bugs are small, flat, oval, reddish-brown, wingless insects that feed primarily on the blood of humans.
- Adult bed bugs are approximately ¼" long, about the size of an apple seed. Young bed bugs are quite small and when unfed they appear lighter and almost clear in color.
- Bed Bugs do not fly or jump, however, they can crawl very fast.

Life Cycle of the Bed Bug

Cimex lectulaius



Bed Bug Bites:

- Bed bugs bites often occur on the arms, shoulders, neck and legs.
- The bite can usually be seen as a red bump, up to a centimeter in size and without a red puncture mark in the middle.
- The bites may occur in lines or as a cluster of three or four.
- The bite may appear within hours or delayed for up to a week.
- Some people have no reaction to bed bugs while others may be highly allergic.



Sings of a Bed Bug Infestation:

- Usually the first sign of a bed bug infestation is the appearance of red itchy welts on any bare skin that is exposed while sleeping. **Look for small black or rusty colored spots on bed linens, pillows, or mattress.** These are blood spots and bed bug droppings. Also, look for live bed bugs, eggs, and cast skins.



Inspecting for Bed Bugs:

- Bed bugs hide close to where people sleep. They prefer fabric, wood, and paper surfaces over metal or plastic. Look for live bed bugs, eggs, cast skins, and blood or fecal spots in the following locations:
 - Mattresses, box spring, bed frame, headboard
 - Upholstered furniture, recliners, draperies, futons
 - Baseboards, behind pictures, furniture legs, door frames, hinges
 - Electrical outlets
 - Telephones, radios, televisions, books, stacks of papers
 - Back packs, luggage, purses, gym bags

Treatment of a Bed Bug Infestation:

Complete elimination of a bed bug infestation can be a difficult process. The tenant will hire a licensed pest control technician to eradicate the bed bugs from your unit. There are

typically three treatments that occur 7-10 days apart from one another. It is absolutely required that you report any suspicion of bed bugs to the non-emergency work order line at 301-791-3168, Select 1. Failure to report your suspicion of bed bugs is a lease violation. Once you report the suspicion of bed bugs to the work order line, maintenance will schedule a licensed pest control operator to inspect you unit.

Tenant's Responsibilities for Treatment:

It is the Tenant's financial responsibility to pay for the cost of the bed bug treatment.

Perform the Following Prior to Treatment:

- Eliminate any clutter in the unit. Don't keep piles of clothes, boxes, toys, shoes, etc. on the floor, under the bed, or in closets. They are prime hiding places for bed bugs.
- Place all machine washable items (bedding, drapes, rugs, clothing and towels) in bags for transport to an **off-site** laundry facility.
- Wash all machine washable items in hot water and then dry on the high heat setting for at least 30 minutes. Place dried items into a new plastic bag and seal it shut.
- Encase infested mattress and box spring with the zip covering provided by the pest control operator. Leave covers on for at least one year. Heavily infested mattresses are not salvageable and must be sealed in plastic and disposed of **off-site**.
- Vacuum bedrooms thoroughly and often. Pay particular attention to the area around the bed and the bed itself. Place the vacuum cleaner bag or contents in a zip lock plastic bag and discard in the trash outside.
- Dispose of any furniture that the pest control operator recommends discarding.
- Place all loose personal items into large plastic totes and keep them in the room(s) to be treated. This includes any items on or in shelving, dressers, cabinets, etc.
- Remove all wall hangings and place them in an area where the servicing technician can inspect them.
- Any Items that are found to be infested with bed bugs during this process should be placed into a sealed plastic bag and brought to the attention of the servicing technician.
- Make arrangements for all people and pets to be out of the treated area until materials have completely dried.
- Move furniture to the middle of the room so the servicing technician can easily treat edges where bed bugs congregate, as well as walls and furniture surfaces.
- Failure to perform the required preparation may result in lease termination.

Preventing Future Infestations:

- **Do Not** bring discarded bed frames, mattresses, box springs, or upholstered furniture into the home.
- Carefully inspect used or rented furniture prior to bringing it into the unit.
- When traveling, carefully inspect the bed, headboard, and furniture upon arrival. Keep suitcases off of the floor and bed and inspect before leaving. Wash and dry all clothing thoroughly after returning home.
- Report any cracks or crevices that need to be caulked to maintenance.
- Be Careful of who stays overnight or visits the unit.

Tenant Signature

Date

HAWC Staff

