

Preparation for Bed Bugs

The following guidelines should be used for preparing for a bed bug infestation treatment.

Items removed from the infested room should be securely bagged following inspection to prevent the spread of bed bugs to other areas of the structure. Items used in the infested rooms, such as vacuum cleaners, laundry or other items that have been removed to another part of must the structure and must be inspected, identified, and thoroughly treated.

Strip the beds linens / areas where people or pets sleep and bag the items to prevent bed bugs from spreading. Hanging or stored clothing and bedding that can be laundered should go through the normal washing machine cycle set to the hottest water setting. Infested items such as footwear, small rugs, backpacks, toys, and stuffed animals should be placed in a clothes dryer and subjected to the highest heat setting for at least five minutes.

Infested electronics such as computers, televisions, radios, clocks, DVD players, and telephones may require treatment or to be bagged and discarded.

Mattresses and box springs may be discarded if heavily infested. If cleared of all bed bugs, it can be covered with a mattress liner or an encasement and kept in service. If the mattress or box spring is discarded, wrap the items in plastic to seal in any bed bugs and eggs that are placed in the dumpster. Firmly attach a note to the items indicating that they are infested with bed bugs.

Furniture and all other items must be pulled away from the walls. Remove electrical switch plates and outlet covers. Dismantle bed frames and stand mattresses and box springs on end if not to be discarded. Remove the cotton cover on the underside of the box spring to expose the internal springs.

All furniture, windows, windowsills, window treatments and window frames should be completely wiped down with a cloth and all-purpose cleaner or laundered. Wipe down all cracks and crevices of the furniture, including drawers. Remove the drawers, inspect, and treat the underside of the drawers and the inside of furniture as needed. Replace the drawers as they dry.

Vacuum the entire floor areas and discard vacuum bag outside. Clean the inside of the vacuum bag outside. Clean the inside of the vacuum and underneath the wheels to prevent re-entry of any bugs.

All occupants must remain out of the treated area for approximately four hours after treatment is completed or until all treated surfaces are dry.

PREPARATION IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS TREATMENT., WE STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPER PREPARATION.