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TREATING BED BUG INFESTATIONS AND BED BUG CONTROL

A plan to treat an infestation of Bed Bugs will only be effective with full cooperation from the home owner, home occupants and/or tenants. Our ability to apply insecticides into the environment will be a large part of eliminating a Bed Bug problem, however, it will not be an effective means of complete elimination without the following suggestions being followed in addition to our treatment:

Search for signs of bed bugs. Our first objective will be to verify that you actually have a Bed Bug infestation. To do so we will need to see an actual bug. If you come in contact with a specimen, please enclose it in a Ziploc plastic baggie for us. Places to look include wooden bed frames, mattress seams, box springs, headboards and night stands, sticky/tacked edging of wall-to-wall carpeting. Keeping in mind that these pests are mostly nocturnal, it might be best to search for them at night.

Thoroughly **vacuum** all furniture (including undersides and cracks & crevices), and floors - side table drawers, box springs, mattresses, chairs, cushions, carpets and rugs. Please keep in mind that you are vacuuming up as many eggs and live bugs as possible. Vacuuming will need to be done **repeatedly** through the entire process of elimination. Be sure to remove your vacuum cleaner bag often and dispose of properly inside a plastic trash bag.

Launder all bedding, pet bedding, and all clothing if evidence of an infestation problem exists in dresser drawers and/or closets. Complete the process by drying these items in a hot air dryer. Store bedding and clothing in plastic storage containers until after treatment of room and furniture.

Clean the area thoroughly removing all clutter. Be very careful not to transport the problem from this room to another area of your home. We recommend a "spring cleaning" placing any unused and/or unwanted items in plastic trash bags to be disposed of properly.

Dismantle furniture found to be infested so that we can treat all pieces individually. On the day of treatment all bedroom furniture should be stripped of bedding, dismantled and laid out to be treated by our technicians. It is also necessary to **remove all electrical outlet covers** so we can treat in and around electrical outlets.

Immediately after our treatment we recommend that all mattresses and box springs be permanently encased within sealed **mattress and box spring covers**. Once they are installed, inspect the bags to ensure they are undamaged; if any holes or tears are found, seal these completely with permanent tape. Any bugs trapped within these sealed bags will eventually die over a period of time and treatment of the enclosed mattresses and/or box springs with use of insecticides will not be necessary again.

