

WHAT ARE BED BUGS?

What do they look like?

Adult bed bugs look like apple seeds. They are 3/8" long and have six legs.

Their babies, or nymphs, are lighter brown than the adults. They are 1/16" long.

Bed bugs can be seen by the naked eye.

They shed their skin like snakes. Look for their clear skin and black spotting.

Where can you find them?

Underneath and in the corners of mattresses and box springs.

Behind headboards and picture frames.

Near sleeping areas and inside of items.

Couches and chairs.

Did you know?

They do not jump or fly.

They typically feed at night.

They can live up to a year without food.



PREVENT BED BUGS & FIND THEM EARLY

How to prevent bed bugs?

If you catch bed bugs early, you can stop them before they lay eggs. The longer you wait, the bigger your bed bug population will grow and the harder to get rid of.

CHECK.

Check for bed bugs on a regular basis in your mattresses, box springs, and cracks. Pay special attention to your sleeping areas.

COVER.

Use bed bug covers on your mattresses and box springs. You can also use bed bug interceptors on bed legs or other furniture to spot them early.

CAUTION.

Be careful when you bring second hand furniture or clothes into your home. Be sure to treat or wash them. When traveling, bed bugs may be found in motels.

CLUTTER-FREE.

Keep your home clean and well organized. When you do, bed bugs have a harder time hiding in between your things.



TREAT BED BUGS

How to treat bed bugs?

Clean Up and Vacuum.

Clean up and de-clutter your home. Make sure the things you get rid of are sealed in bags to prevent your bed bugs from spreading. Vacuuming is a great first line of defense. Make sure to get all cracks and crevices. Throw away the waste in a sealed plastic bag.

Wash and Dry.

Wash and dry your clothes, bedding, and linens on high heat. Then, seal them in sealed bags. Trash bags that close are perfect.

Seal and Store.

Put washed clothes in sealed bags, besides what you will wear. You may also want to seal and store rugs and other items that you know are bed bug free. Keep them sealed until your home is completely treated and bed bug free.

Cover.

Use bed bug covers on your mattresses and box springs. Make sure the covers close, fit snugly and do not have any rips and tears.

Consult.

Consult with a pest control treatment professional. They will treat your home if needed. Sometimes, they may have to treat several times. Recommendations and cost are based on the size of your bed bug population.

WHO ARE WE?

We are the Northeast Ohio Bed Bug Taskforce.

Created in 2015 to increase public awareness about the growing bed bug problem in our community, our local bed bug taskforce is comprised of a diverse group of individuals who are committed to minimizing the potential impact bed bugs may have on our local communities, businesses, and residences.

The task force currently meets monthly to discuss current bed bug related news and issues. We also:

Disseminate education and provide trainings throughout the year.

Develop protocols and procedures for handling bed bug prevention and treatment.

Recommend possible solutions to those who have bed bugs.

WHAT DO WE DO?

We identify methods of improving awareness through the provision of education and guidance on the prevention, detection, and elimination of bed bug infestations.

www.NEObedbugtaskforce.com

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REPORT BED BUGS



We are tracking cases of bed bugs in Northeast Ohio to learn about the extent of our bed bug problem. If you have bed bugs, let us know!

Call 2-1-1.

2-1-1 is a service provided by United Way. 2-1-1 will confidentially report your infestation and provide guidance on local resources in your area to help you get rid of your bedbugs.

Visit Our Website.

Visit www.NEObedbugtaskforce.com and fill out an easy webform. We also provide guidance on prevention, treatment processes, and possible solutions.

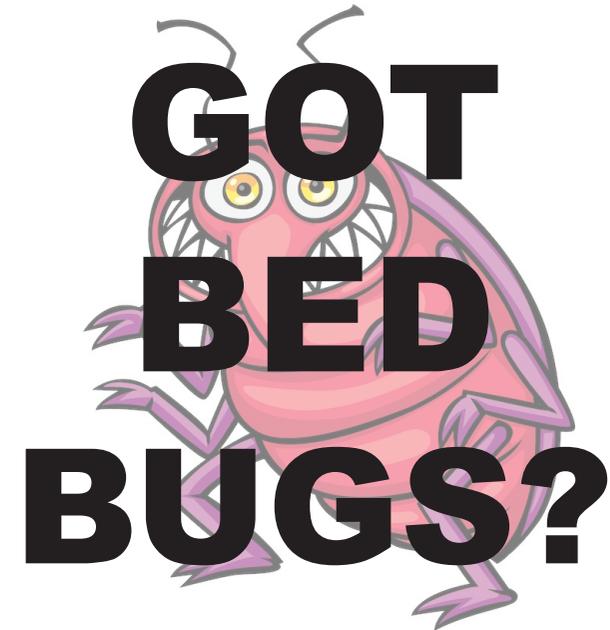
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Get Involved.

If you are interested in attending a task force meeting or receiving training for your staff or organization, please send us an email at: neobedbugtaskforce.com.

Donate.

Bed bug treatment and prevention can be expensive. If you find yourself in a fortunate position and would like to donate funds to purchase mattress covers, interceptors, trashbags, laundry vouchers, or treatment, please let us know.



Bed bugs are not your fault. Anyone can get them. The Bed Bug Taskforce is here to help you learn how to spot and get rid of your bed bugs.