



## Critical Notice: Bed Bug Awareness and Prevention



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### A Message from Civil Pest Control and Building Management

At **Civil Pest Control**, our priority is ensuring a safe, healthy, and comfortable home for all residents. **Bed bugs** are challenging pests that require immediate and coordinated action to eliminate. We need your crucial help in **identifying, preventing, and reporting** any signs of activity to keep our building bug-free.

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### Part 1: How to Identify Bed Bug Activity

Bed bugs are tiny, reddish-brown insects that feed on blood. They hide during the day and come out to feed at night. Early detection is key to successful treatment.

## Look for the "Trifecta" of Physical Evidence:

- **Blood Spots:** Tiny, rust-colored or reddish stains on your sheets, mattress, or pillowcase, often caused by crushed bugs.
- **Fecal Spots:** Small, dark brown or black spots (like marker dots) on mattresses, bedding, walls, or furniture. These are digested blood; if wiped with a wet rag, they will smear.
- **Shed Skins (Exoskeletons):** Light brown, empty shells left behind as bugs grow. Look for these near hiding spots.

## Other Signs:

- **Sightings:** Adult bed bugs are about the size of an **apple seed** ( mm), flat, and oval-shaped. They appear swollen and reddish after feeding.
  - **Hiding Spots:** Check seams and tags of mattresses, box springs, crevices of bed frames, headboards, and upholstered furniture.
  - **Bites:** Small, red, itchy welts that often appear in a **cluster or line** ("breakfast, lunch, and dinner") on exposed skin.
  - **Odor:** In heavy infestations, a sweet, musty, or "rusty" odor may be present.
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## Part 2: Tips for Preventing Bed Bugs

Bed bugs are most often brought into homes through travel or used items. Take these steps to reduce your risk:

### 1. Travel Awareness

- **Inspect Hotel Rooms:** Before unpacking, thoroughly check the mattress seams, headboard, and nearby furniture.
- **Luggage Safety:** Keep luggage off the floor and away from the bed.
- **Post-Travel Laundry:** Immediately wash and dry all clothing (even unworn items) on the

**hottest setting** the fabric can handle when you return home.

## 2. Item Screening

- **Check Used Items:** Carefully inspect any used or second-hand furniture (especially mattresses, couches, or headboards) before bringing them into your home. **Never** take discarded items from the curb.

## 3. Home Maintenance

- **Reduce Clutter:** Minimize clutter, especially piles of clothes, books, and boxes near your bed, as these are ideal hiding spots.
  - **Vacuum Regularly:** Vacuum carpets, floors, and around the bed often. **Immediately** dispose of the vacuum bag (or empty canister contents into a sealed bag) outside in a tied trash receptacle.
  - **Protect Your Bed:** Consider encasing your mattress and box spring in **bed bug-proof, zippered covers**.
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## Part 3: What to Do If You Suspect Bed Bug Activity

**Timely reporting is essential** for Civil Pest Control to isolate the issue and begin effective treatment.

### **If you find any signs of bed bug activity:**

1. **DO NOT** attempt to treat the problem yourself with sprays or foggers. This often causes the bugs to scatter and spread the infestation to other units.
2. **DO NOT** move your furniture or mattress into the hallway or another unit. This is the fastest way to spread the infestation.
3. **REPORT IMMEDIATELY:** Contact building management right away.

**Your cooperation is critical to preventing the spread and protecting our entire community.**

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Party	Contact Name/Department	Phone Number	Email/Address
<b>Building Management</b>			
<b>Pest Control Company</b>	Civil Pest Control	[1-647-507-PEST- [7378]	Antoniot@civilpest.com

**Please report any concerns promptly and confidentially.**

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