Do you think you might have BED BUGS?

Bed bugs live in very clean homes as well as not-so clean homes. Adult bed bugs are small brown or dark red blood-sucking bugs. Younger bed bugs are yellow-gold. Bed bugs don’t jump or fly.

Bed bugs usually bite at night. Bites look like rashes, hives, or mosquito or flea bites. Sometimes bites are in a half-circle or a line. Bed bug bites will not make you sick, but can itch and get infected.

**If You Think You Have Bed Bugs**

Do not use pesticides—bug sprays and foggers (bug bombs) will not get rid of bed bugs and can harm your family and pets. It takes a pest control professional to get rid of bed bugs.

- Tell your building manager right away if you think you have bed bugs. They multiply fast and are easier to get rid of when you only have a few.
- Talk to a pest control professional before throwing anything out. Most items can be treated, including mattresses and furniture.

**How to Find Bed Bugs**

If someone in the home is getting bitten at night and you don’t have fleas or mosquitoes, check for bed bugs. Use a good flashlight and magnifying glass to look for bed bugs, their droppings, and shed skins. It may be easier to find signs of bed bugs than the bugs themselves.

**Places to look for bed bugs:**

- Mattresses and box springs, especially in fabric seams
- Crib mattresses
- Chairs and sofas where people sleep or nap

For more information on managing pests, go to www.ourwaterourworld.org/FactSheets.aspx