

# ATTENTION!

## Bed Bugs Reach Epidemic Levels in NY Metro Area

Bed Bugs have become an epidemic throughout the New York Metro area with 1 in 15 NYers fighting these pests. Although the name Bed Bug makes us think the insects are found only in our bedrooms, this is not the case. Bed Bugs are found throughout our environment; on buses and trains, in movie theaters, locker rooms, schools, offices, and hospitals. They even hide in computers and electronics.

Here is some helpful information about Bed Bug infestations. If you encounter any problem, please contact us immediately! From first sighting, our objective is to stop the spread of these insects within your home or facility and to prevent you from transporting them to new locations.

### BED BUG FACTS

- Reddish-brown, flattened, oval, wingless insect.
- Up to 1/4 of an inch long.
- Nymphs (babies) have a translucent, barely visible body no bigger than a speck of dust.
- Nymphs must feed on blood to grow, shedding skins as they develop in a process called molting.
- They infest all types of facilities and living environments, even the most expensive, luxurious homes. Sanitation and cleanliness have no bearing on their presence.
- They typically feed every 7-10 days for anywhere between 3-10 minutes. One bed bug will bite 1-3 times during this feeding.
- An adult can survive 400+ days without a blood meal; nymphs 3 months. This means they can travel great distances in bags, boxes, furniture, and luggage, awaiting their new home and host.
- Bed bugs like to hide in seams and cracks and crevices. This behavior along with their small size makes them very difficult to see and treat. This also means you can take them home with you from an infested location in your coat, bag, shoes, pants pockets, cuffs, in a package...anywhere!
- Evidence of an infestation will be tiny black speckled droppings, molted skins, and eggs (though these are nearly impossible to see).
- Bites and reactions vary from person to person depending upon how allergic a given individual is to the saliva injected at the time of feeding.
- Bedbug saliva acts as an analgesic and anti-coagulant, allowing the bug to feed efficiently while preventing the host from feeling pain or discomfort while being bitten so the bugs can go undetected while they are feeding.
- It can take up to 5 days for the itch and irritation associated with the bites to appear. This often makes it very difficult to determine precisely where one is being bitten.
- Multiple treatments are typically necessary to get rid of an infestation, due to the cryptic nature associated with these bugs.

**ACT FAST** if you think you have bed bugs! Seek treatment by a professional pest control company specializing in bed bugs.



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