

Prevention

As a tenant, you are required to put forth your best efforts and care to prevent the presence of bed bugs. Since bed bugs are so easily transported from public space, like movie theaters, to private areas, like your bedroom, there is often not much a person can do in the way of prevention. Still, a tenant is responsible to act to prevent the further contamination of the community property by doing what he can to isolate the infestation. The Central Ohio Bed Bug Task Force recommends bagging and cleaning all suspected infested items, vacuuming the carpet and floor, and wrapping all infected mattresses.

Tips

- Raising awareness through education on prevention of bed bugs;
- Inspecting infested areas, plus surrounding living spaces;
- Checking for infestations on luggage and clothes when returning home from a trip;
- Reducing the number of secondhand items brought into units and looking for bed bugs or signs of infestation on secondhand items before bringing the items home;
- Correctly identifying the pest;
- Keeping records – including dates when and locations where pests are found;
- Cleaning all items within a bed bug infested living area;
- Reducing clutter where bed bugs can hide;
- Eliminating bed bug habitats;
- Physically removing bed bugs through cleaning;
- Using pesticides carefully according to the label directions; and,
- Following up on inspections and possible treatments.

If You Need Assistance Please Contact

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U.S. Department of Housing
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HUD-Fair Housing
Enforcement Center
7 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 2101
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
800-669-9777 (HOTLINE)
800-927-9275 (TDD)
Or online at HUD.gov

Bedbugs in Ohio



Bedbugs are an extreme nuisance and a growing problem in many cities in Ohio. Bed bugs are easily spread from person to person; leave annoying, very itchy red bumps in rows on the body; and are difficult and expensive to exterminate. If an infestation is bad enough, it is possible to spend thousands, even tens of thousands of dollars, on getting rid of the pests. What do you do if your building or rental property is infested with bedbugs? If you are a tenant in Ohio, the Ohio Revised Code Section 5321.05 of the Landlord-Tenant Act dictates your rights and actions with regards to extermination and liability.

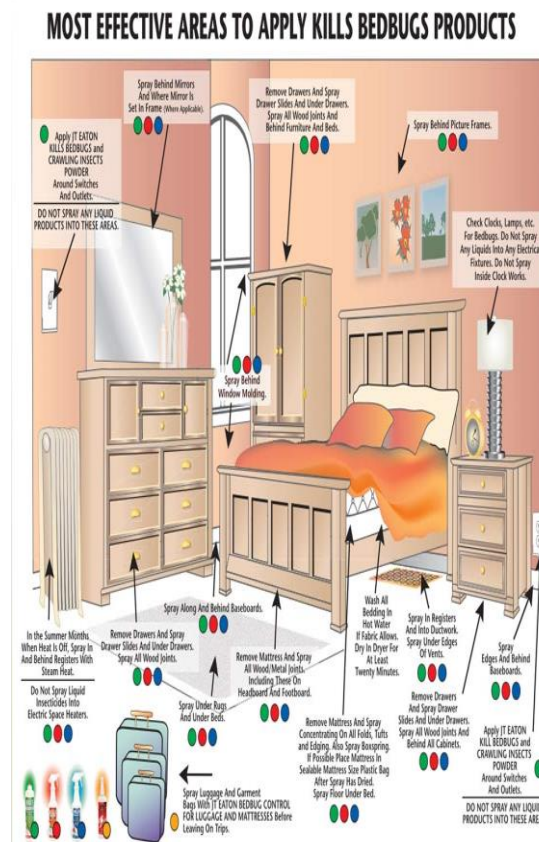
Interact with Landlord

If an infestation is discovered, the tenant is required to notify the landlord immediately. The tenant must do this in writing. The landlord is then responsible for hiring the exterminator and treating the infected space. If directed by the landlord, the tenant must vacate and prepare the premises in order to facilitate a successful extermination.



Costs

The tenant is responsible for all extermination costs as charged by the landlord. This includes any costs associated with rescheduling an appointment due to failure to vacate the premises or failure to properly prepare for the extermination. In addition, the tenant is responsible for all costs related to replacing and restoring personal property.



Lease Termination

If the tenant fails to comply with the procedures of extermination or if the tenant refuses to vacate the premises as needed for extermination, the tenant's lease can be terminated at the landlord's discretion. If the rental property is declared unlivable by the exterminator and the property remains infested, the tenant can terminate the lease as well without punishment.

Contact Us

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Visit us on the Web:
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