



Bed Bug SOP Manual

July 15, 2020- Revise



The Quechan Pesticide Enforcement and Control Office developed the following guidelines.

Bed bugs Detection

If you suspect you may have bed bugs, immediately contact the Quechan Pesticide Enforcement and Control Office at 760-572-0771. (All Tribal Employees who may learn of a potential bed bug issue should also first call the Quechan Pesticide Enforcement and Control Office.)

Once your call is reported, the Pesticide Officer will be dispatched to the tribal entity to perform a thorough inspection. Only the Tribal Entity director or the Pesticide Officer can confirm or deny the presence of bed bugs.

The Pesticide Officer will inspect as well as the walls, molding, carpet molding, behind any posters and wall hangings, and furniture. If there are cobwebs or dust bunnies behind the furniture or office furniture, those are inspected as well, as they can be a great place to find castings (molted exoskeletons). The Pesticide Officer will also inspect storage rooms, desks, clothing, and any luggage. Finally, The Pesticide Officer will inspect for droppings, which are typically visible right outside bed bug hiding places. During the inspection, the Directors will be given a copy of this policy and procedures document.

If Bed bugs are found

1. Quechan Tribal Government, Quechan Tribal administrator, IHS, and Safety Officer will be informed about the incident.
2. A professional pest control company will be called in to confirm the findings and develop a treatment plan.
3. Before the affected area is treated, approval will be requested from the Quechan Tribal Administrator.
4. The director will be given information detailing the process and some steps required to protect the entity from further exposure and potentially spreading the infestation.
5. Inspection and potential treatment may include kitchens, offices, and rooms surrounding affected areas (including above, below, left, right, and across). This is a precautionary measure: Tribal employees or Tribal members in these areas are not required to follow the laundry recommendations unless they, too, have signs of bed bugs.
6. Treatment of infested areas may take more than one application. Follow-up inspections will be necessary.
7. Request approval from Quechan Tribal Administrator to close the premises after the treatment has taken place.

If no Bed bugs are found

1. A bed bug monitoring system will be placed as a precaution. A follow-up inspection will occur after one week of monitoring.
2. The tribal entity may be treated for other pest problems that may be identified. If health issues arise, those should be reported to the immediate supervisor. Tribal members should consult their doctor.

Helping to Get Rid of Bed Bugs

- Pre-treatment—The entity's floor must be clean, and all affected items bagged in preparation for treatment.
- Post-treatment—Entity must launder all affected clothing and bedding if applicable. Bag all laundry first to avoid dropping any bed bugs. Place items from the bag directly into the washer; if possible, dump all items directly from the bag into the washer. Tie the emptied bag inside another clean bag sealed and dispose of both bags. After washing the items place them into a hot dryer for at least 30 minutes.
- Once items are washed and dried, they should be placed into a clean bag and sealed (can be removed as needed) until the infestation is confirmed to be eradicated.
- Follow-up inspections will be performed as necessary to ensure complete eradication.
- Any new infestation should be reported to the Quechan Pesticide Enforcement and Control Office immediately.

Bed Bugs Don'ts

1. Do not Panic! Although bed bugs can be annoying, they can be eradicated safely and successfully if you follow these guidelines.
2. Do not apply pesticides on your own. This job should be handled by professionals.
3. Don't move mattresses or any furniture out into the hallway. Infested furniture can be cleaned and treated. Placing infested furniture into common areas or on the street may simply help to spread bed bugs.

Bed Bugs facts

What are bed bugs?

They are small insects that feed on the blood of mammals and birds. Adult bed bugs are oval, wingless, and rusty red colored, and have flat bodies, antennae, and small eyes. They are visible to the naked eye but often hide in cracks and crevices. When bed bugs feed, their bodies swell and become brighter red. In homes, bed bugs feed primarily on the blood of humans, usually at night when people are sleeping.

What does a bed bug bite feel and look like?

Typically, the bite is painless and rarely awakens a sleeping person. However, it can produce large, itchy welts on the skin. Welts from bed bug bites do not have a red spot in the center—those welts are more characteristic of flea bites. Some people will have a reaction to the bites and some will not. At times, it can be confusing when half the people in the house have welts and the other half have nothing.

Are bed bugs dangerous?

Although bed bugs may be a nuisance to people, they are not known to spread disease. They are known to cause allergic reactions from their saliva in sensitive people.

How long do bed bugs live?

The typical lifespan of a bed bug is about 10 months. They can survive for weeks to months without feeding.

How does a home or entity become infested with bed bugs?

In most cases, bed bugs are transported from infested areas to non-infested areas when they cling onto someone's clothing or crawl into luggage, furniture, or bedding that is then brought into homes.

Where are bed bugs found?

According to the CDC Bed bugs are found across the globe from North and South America to Africa, Asia, and Europe. Although the presence of bed bugs has traditionally been seen as a problem in developing countries, it has recently been spreading rapidly in parts of the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and other parts of Europe. Bed bugs have been found in five-star hotels and resorts and their presence is not determined by the cleanliness of the living conditions where they are found.

Bed bug infestations usually occur around or near the areas where people sleep. These areas include apartments, shelters, rooming houses, hotels, cruise ships, buses, trains, and dorm rooms. They hide during the day in places such as seams of mattresses, box springs, bed frames, headboards, dresser

tables, inside cracks or crevices, behind wallpaper, or any other clutter or objects around a bed. Bed bugs have been shown to be able to travel over 100 feet in a night but tend to live within 8 feet of where people sleep.