



THE CITY OF ANTHONY

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IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE CITY OF ANTHONY

Bed Bugs were discovered at the Friendship Meals facility (Municipal Hall Basement). The facility has been treated by a licensed professional extermination service and has been cleaned after waiting the recommended 48-hour quarantine period. However, reinfestations can occur. The City of Anthony is asking for your assistance to help prevent further occurrences at the Hall and the spread of bed bugs between patrons. Please adhere to the following:

1. If you see bed bugs at Municipal Hall, please report this immediately to the City Office by calling 620.842.5434.
2. If you currently have or suspect that you may have bed bugs in your home, we ask that you please help us prevent the spread of further infestation and ask for meal delivery until the problem is resolved. Bed bugs are great hitchhikers, and we will need your help to stop them from continuing to reinfest the Hall and spreading to the homes of other public patrons.
3. We do understand how overwhelming this can be to deal with at home. There is a fact sheet on the back of this letter that can provide some general information as well as a photo of a bed bug. The sheet focuses on places that serve food and hotels. Here is a link for more general information about bed bugs in the home: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html>
If you have followed the recommended guidelines for bed bug removal and are still struggling with them in your home, we would be happy to try to connect you to additional resources for assistance. Please contact 316.616.4112 for more information.

Thank you for doing your part to responsibly help the city maintain a community facility that is safe for all public patrons.


Cyndra Kastens
City Administrator

Bed bugs are found all over the world and are constantly being dispersed via furniture, luggage and bedding. During the last decade, there has been a significant increase in the number of bed bug infestations reported in homes, hotels, apartments and cruise ships. Since 2005, there has been an increase in bed bugs reported in lodging establishments in Kansas. The challenge is to correctly identify bed bugs, prevent their spread, and eliminate bed bugs from lodging facilities.

HOW TO IDENTIFY BED BUGS

- Immature bed bugs are light yellow or tan in color.
- Adults are brown or reddish brown.
- Adults are 1/8th of an inch in size and can be seen by the naked eye.
- Bed bugs are wingless, oval and flattened in appearance and crawl at a steady rate.
- Bed bugs are active mainly at night. During the daytime, they prefer to hide close to where they sleep. Their flattened bodies enable them to fit into tiny crevices – especially those associated with mattresses, box springs, bed frames, and headboards. Characteristically these areas are marked by dark spotting and staining, which is dried excrement of the bugs.
- In hotels and motels, the area behind the headboard is often the first place that the bugs become established. Mattresses, upholstered chairs, and sofas should be checked carefully, including seams, tufts, skirts, and crevices. Nightstands and dressers should be emptied and examined inside and out, then tipped over to inspect the woodwork underneath. Other common places to find bed bugs include: along and under the edge of wall-to-wall carpeting; cracks in wood molding; ceiling-wall junctures; behind wall mounts and picture frames; and under loose wallpaper.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE BED BUGS

- Report the presence of bed bugs or bed bug evidence to the regulatory authority (KDA at 785-564-6767) upon discovery.
- Use a licensed pest control operator to treat bed bugs.
- Since bed bugs can disperse throughout a building, it also may be necessary to inspect adjoining rooms.
- Each guest room that is infested must be cleaned prior to reinspection.
- Do not rent guest rooms that are infested until the infestation is eliminated and the regulatory authority has conducted a follow-up inspection to verify elimination of bed bugs.

BED BUG HEALTH RISKS

- Bed bugs are spread to other facilities by guests and can be spread throughout your facility by guests and staff.
- Bed bugs feed by piercing the skin with an elongated beak through which they withdraw blood, causing itching and inflammation. Bed bugs usually bite people at night while they are sleeping. Severity depends upon the person. Many people develop an itchy red welt or localized swelling, which sometimes appears a day or so after the bite.
- A common concern with bed bugs is whether they transmit diseases. Although bed bugs can harbor pathogens in their bodies, transmission to humans is highly unlikely. Therefore, they are not considered a serious health threat. Their medical significance is mainly limited to the itching and inflammation from their bites.