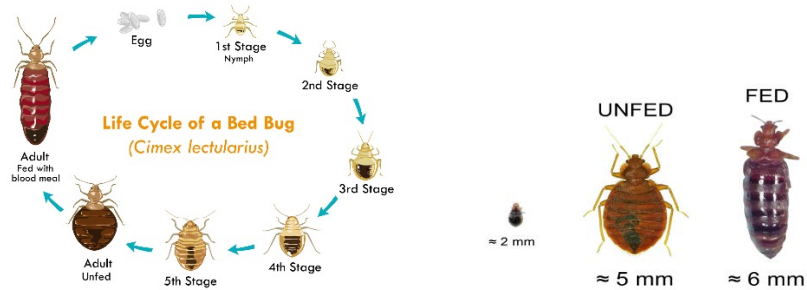


What You Should Know About Bedbugs

What are bedbugs?

Bedbugs have co-existed with humans for millennia and are not a reflection of poor hygiene or bad housekeeping. They are annoying pests but do not transmit diseases to people. They are small, flat, oval, wingless insects (about one-fifth of an inch - similar to apple seed size) reddish-brown in color that hide in crevices, bed frames, mattresses seams and box springs, behind electrical outlet covers and picture frames, inside drawers of furniture, or in clothes discarded on the floor. Hiding during the day, they are nocturnal. Sometimes the first signs of bedbugs are multiple bite marks and blood spots on bedding.



What should I do if I suspect I have bedbugs?

- If you suspect or discover bedbugs, immediately advise your RA and contact Student Affairs staff or Facilities. You or your RA can submit the online work order form or contact Facilities via email to worders@udallas.edu and call 972.721.5295; contact Student Affairs at studentaffairs@udallas.edu and call 972.721.5323.
- If you find a rash or marks on your body or blood spots on your sheets, contact the Student Health Services Center for assistance at 972.721.5322.
- If possible, try to gather a sample of the suspected insects in a sealed plastic bag.
- Do not attempt to eradicate them yourself. Successful treatment must be carried out by a trained professional.
- Students renting off-campus housing have the same rights and responsibilities to a safe, healthy dwelling that all renters have in the State of Texas. If you suspect a bed bug infestation, follow the same basic actions outlined in this document, working with your landlord or building manager instead of the University contacts.

What happens after I report bed bugs?

- Facilities will arrange for your room to be inspected. Depending upon the condition of your room, you may be asked to prepare your room for the inspection.
- If no bed bugs are found, your room may be re-inspected at a later date.

What happens if bed bugs are found?

- If bed bugs are found, Arrow Exterminators will be contacted by the University to treat the room. This may include steam cleaning, the use of federally approved insecticides, filling holes and other procedures.
- You will be contacted by Student Affairs staff or Facilities and interviewed to find out ways that the bedbugs might have come to be in your room. This will help to prevent the spread of these pests.
- Neighboring rooms may also be inspected to make sure the bugs have not invaded those rooms as well.
- You will be asked to...
 - a. *Place all cloth belongings (clothing, bedding, wall hangings, rugs, shoes, stuffed animals) into plastic bags; immediately wash and dry on the highest heat setting for 30*

minutes; place cleaned items in NEW plastic bags; dispose of the old bags in an outside trash can.

- b. Turn on electronics while packing up the room – the heat generated should kill any pests in the unit.*
 - c. Any personal belongings which cannot be dried need to be inspected for pests and placed in a sealed plastic bag and/or lidded plastic tubs for at least two (2) weeks.*
 - d. Flip through all papers, notebooks, books, etc. to check for pests before removing them from the room*
 - e. Remove any wall decorations from walls; inspect for pests and place in sealed plastic bags for 2 weeks*
 - f. Empty closets, dressers, bed stands, entertainment centers, hutches, and any other enclosed furniture; after visually inspecting removed items, place the items into plastic bags and/or lidded, plastic tubs*
 - g. Remove any approved pets (fish or ESA) from the room*
 - h. Remove all plants and cardboard boxes from the affected spaces and place outside of the building in the designated spot determined by Facilities.*
 - i. No belongings should be removed from the room until they have been properly inspected, treated or enclosed.*
- Student Affairs will contact you if relocation is needed while extermination takes place. Anything you take to your temporary living place should be laundered to kill any hitchhiking bed bugs, including your luggage and other similar items.
 - All furniture in the room will be treated during this process. Anything that can be cleaned and treated should be left in the room to make sure all the bed bugs are eradicated from the room.
 - Any furniture that is not salvageable will be removed immediately to make sure the bugs will not spread.
 - Your room may be periodically re-inspected to make sure none of the bugs has survived to start the problem all over again.

What can I do to help?

Though bedbugs are very rare at the University of Dallas, we need your assistance to avert and contain future cases. Here is what you can do to help:

- ***Avoid bringing bed bugs to campus*** by inspecting and cleaning your luggage and clothing immediately before returning to campus. Wash bedding and clothing in hot water and use a dryer on the hottest setting. You can also use a steam cleaner on your belongings; bed bugs are killed by heat, not by drugstore insecticides.
- ***After returning to campus***, recheck all traveling gear and items when you unpack. Don't put your suitcase or backpack on or under your bed.
- ***Wash clothes and linens frequently*** in hot water and dryer to kill any possible bugs.
- ***Clean and reduce the clutter in your room*** to eliminate places for bedbugs to hide during the day.
- ***Don't bring second-hand furniture items onto campus.*** They can be common breeding grounds for bedbugs.
- ***Inspect your bed periodically.*** Check for blood spots on your sheets. Lift bedding and mattress. Check in seams, between bedposts and slats, and behind headboards. Use a

flashlight at night.

- ***Inspect your backpack periodically.*** Bedbugs can hide in backpacks. Check seams and pouches throughout your backpack for bugs or eggs. Do not place your backpack on or under your bed.
- ***When traveling,*** take precautions. Keep your luggage away from the bed and floor while away; elevate your luggage on a dresser or luggage rack instead. Inspect the bed you will be using as described above. Check the room, including behind wall hangings.

Other resources

There are many good resources on bedbugs. Check the web sites listed below or do a keyword search in your favorite internet search portal such as Google or Yahoo.

<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html>

<https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publichealth/insects/bedbug.html>

<https://urbanentomology.tamu.edu/urban-pests/bedbugs/>

Our commitment to you

We hope that the information in this fact sheet provides you a better understanding of this problem, the actions Student Affairs and Facilities are taking to address it, and what you can do to help. Providing a safe living environment for our students and residential visitors at the University of Dallas is priority. Please know that everyone on our staff is committed to doing everything practical to manage the impact of this worldwide problem on our campus. If you have further questions, contact Student Affairs or Facilities.