

# NORTH SHORE PEST CONTROL, INC.

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### TO PREPARE FOR BED BUG TREATMENT

- Discard heavily infested items, especially beds and other furniture.
- Have the home "picked-up" no dirty clothes on the floor, children's toys put away and items pulled away from the wall.
- Vacuum all infested rooms.
- Plan for all people and pets to be gone from the home during and after the treatment, for about
  4-5 hours.

#### WHEN YOU RETURN

- Launder or dry clean all bedding and clothing using the hottest temperature that is safe for your items.
- Encase all mattresses and box springs in certified bed bug proof encasements.
- Continue to keep the home "picked-up" at all times.
- Do not bring in any additional furnishings.
- Do not steam clean after treatment has be performed.

## KNOW YOUR ENEMY: BED BUG FACTS

Bed bugs are generally nocturnal. They prefer tight spaces, cracks and crevices, which makes detection difficult and gives populations longer periods to grow. Bed bugs can survive up to 140 days without feeding.

Females lay eggs in batches of 10-50 and can produce 200-500 eggs during their lifespan. Eggs are cemented into hard to reach cracks, crevices and voids, which enhances survival by creating harder detection. The growth from egg to adult can take 5-8 weeks or up to eight months with their lifespan ranging from 6 months to 1.5 years.

## **BITE SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:**

- Symptoms may not appear immediately or in many cases, not at all.
- Severe itching lasting several hours or days caused by reaction with the bugs' saliva.
- Large oval/oblong shaped inflammation or swelling of the skin.

# **IDENTIFICATION**

Bed bugs cluster together and early detection is crucial for elimination. Some things to look for:

- Adult bed bugs are the size and color of an apple seed, but flattened.
- Blood marks
- Dark fecal spots