

Housing Authority of Beaver Dam Bedbug Extermination Policy

The Housing Authority of Beaver Dam will make all efforts to provide a healthy and pest-free environment for its residents. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, bedbug populations have increased dramatically. Bedbugs are considered a pest of significant health importance by the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The insects are not known to transmit disease, but bites may itch and cause an allergic reaction in some people, leading to secondary infections. The presence of bedbugs also contributes to stress and anxiety.

Tenants are expected to take an active role and report any suspicion of bedbugs. When suspicion of a bedbug contamination is reported, the Housing Authority will have either trained staff or third party professionals inspect the reporting apartment and/or apartments immediately surrounding within 3 business days. The inspector shall inspect areas of possible infestation: mainly beds and upholstered furniture.

In the event an infestation is found, all units in that building shall be inspected within 5 working days. Extermination procedures shall commence as soon as possible in all infested units. Treatment may include, but not be limited to, steam cleaning or disposal of all upholstered furniture and mattresses. All clothing, bedding and cloth items shall be washed in hot water and dried in commercial machines. Tenants should be advised that treatment may take several weeks, depending on the severity of the problem.

Resident cooperation with the extermination plan is essential. Residents will be given a checklist "Preparation for Bedbug Treatment". Residents will be advised that inspection and treatment of bedbugs may take time to schedule. The resident shall provide access to their unit on the scheduled extermination day. The tenant **will not** be expected to contribute to the cost of the treatment effort. The tenant **will not** be reimbursed the cost of any additional expense to the household, such as purchase of new furniture, clothing or cleaning services.

Furthermore, the Housing Authority of Beaver Dam will not deny tenancy to a potential resident on the basis of the tenant having experienced a prior bedbug infestation.

Housing Authority of Beaver Dam Preparation for Bedbug Treatment

Name: _____ Address: _____

The following checklist must be completed to obtain an effective treatment process.

If you do not cooperate with the treatment program, your lease may be terminated and the cost of treatment may be billed to your account.

- Clean the unit and sweep and/or vacuum on the morning of treatment.
- Remove clothing and clutter from floors (including under the bed and other furniture)
- Empty all closets (living room, bedroom and hallway) and clear closet floors.
- Move all belongings (except furniture) away from the baseboards.
- Small objects such as figurines, clocks, statues, picture frames, vases, etc. should be packed away in a box and placed in a plastic bag so workmen can safely move furniture.
- Remove all clothes and bed linens from all closets and drawers. Put in heavy plastic bags to transport to a laundry facility if you do not have a washer and dryer. Launder and dry clothing, linens, etc. at 120 degrees or higher. Dispose of bags after putting clothes in washers. Put freshly laundered and dried clothes in NEW plastic bags and seal tightly with strong tape.
- If the item can't be washed but is safe for the dryer, a dryer set on high heat will also kill any bugs and eggs. Items should be thoroughly heated for at least 20 minutes. This includes stuffed animals.
- Remove items from upholstered furniture so it can be treated. **Furniture is not to be removed** from the unit unless instructed by a staff person or exterminator to do so.
- Empty all chest, desk and nightstand drawers and put the contents in bags.
- Clear out all areas under the bathroom and kitchen sinks and bag the contents.
- Cover all dishes and place food items such as fruit, bread, cakes, etc. in the refrigerator.
- Remove all bedding from mattresses and box springs and launder as discussed above.
- All laundered items should be left in the securely taped bags until all pests are eliminated.** Leave out only the clothes that you need during this process.
- After** your unit has been treated, vacuum your rugs, carpet and furniture and sweep your floors to get rid of any dead bugs and eggs. When you have finished, you should put the vacuum bag in a plastic bag, tape it shut and dispose of it in the trash containers.

You will need to remain out of your unit for about 4 hours during and after treatment. The exterminator will treat along the baseboards, inside closets and drawers, behind switch plates and covers, around the kitchen and bath plumbing and all other visible cracks or crevices. They will apply a chemical under your bed, around the edges of box springs and mattresses, under your couch, inside the casing of your dressers and drawers, etc.

Signature head of household _____ Date _____

Signature housing representative _____ Date _____