Darke County Bed Bug Resources

- Darke County Health Department
  - Answer general bed bug questions
  - 937-548-4196

- Pest Control Companies
  - Confirm and treat bedbug infestations
  - List available at health department

- Catholic Social Services/PASSPORT
  - Can provide assistance to residents with financial need
  - 937-498-4593

- Community Action Partnership
  - Can help people find resources to deal with a bed bug infestation
  - (937) 341-5000

Things to Remember

- Anyone can get bedbugs
- Bed Bugs are not related to cleanliness or personal hygiene
- Bed Bugs can be eliminated with the proper professional treatment

For more information:
Darke County General Health District
300 Garst Avenue Greenville, OH 45331
Phone: 937-548-4196
Fax: 937-548-9654
www.darkecountyhealth.org
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What are Bed Bugs?

- **Small insects** which are ectoparasites (external parasites) of humans

- Live where humans spend a lot of time including bedrooms and armchairs

- Can travel more than 100 feet a night to reach a food source

- Live in cracks and small spaces during the day. This can be folds in a mattress, or in cracks in the wall

- Feed on blood during the night. The bites are painless, but can become extremely itchy, red bumps

- Bed bugs are **not known to transmit any diseases**

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Signs you may have bed bugs

- You have **itchy red bumps** which look like mosquito bites. These may occur in lines or rows

- There are **rust covered spots** or smears on bedding and surrounding areas

- You can see **groups of bedbugs** in cracks in the floor, behind wallpaper, or in cracks in the mattress

- You can see the **shed exoskeletons of bedbugs** on bedding

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How to Avoid Bringing Bed Bugs into Your home

- Check all used or rented furniture for bedbugs

- Seal cracks and crevasses around wiring or plumbing

- Check hotel rooms for bedbugs, and keep your suitcase off the floor

- Check backpacks and suitcases after traveling

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What to do if you think you have Bed Bugs

- If you think you have bedbugs, **dry your clothing on the hottest setting the fabric can withstand for at least 30 minutes**

- If you think clothing or bedding is contaminated, **place the items in a sealed plastic bag** until you can launder them

- Things which cannot be laundered can be heat treated or freeze treated by a professional

- Freeze treatment includes getting the core of the object at 23 degrees Fahrenheit or colder for at least 5 days. Heat treatment includes increasing the core temperature of the item to 120 degrees Fahrenheit for at least 2 hours.

- If you think you have a bed bug infestation, you should **contact a professional pest control company** to do an inspection