



Bed Bug Prevention and Control

Relocation Companies
Second-hand & Rental Furniture
Public Storage Facilities
Carpet Installers

Relocation facilities, rental furniture and second-hand furniture companies, and public storage facilities can harbor populations of bed bugs in their merchandise. For this reason, it is critical for these industries to have policies and procedures in place to prevent and control bed bugs.



Industries should:

- A. Provide training to staff at the commencement of employment and annually thereafter, including:
 - prevention measures that reduce risk of bed bug infestations and their spread
 - identification of bed bugs and other pest infestations (e.g., cockroaches)
 - reporting and referral procedures subsequent to detection of bed bugs or evidence of an infestation
 - treatment
 - updates on current best practices

B. Implement industry-specific written procedures for the prevention, identification, treatment and monitoring of bed bug infestations to include:

- Follow identification inspection guidelines located in the Inspection Section of the Polk County Manual for Prevention and Control of Bed Bugs.
- Implement an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) in conjunction with your pest management professional.
- Implement a process to respond to complainant in a timely manner regarding your Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan.
- Keep written records of pest sightings and pest management recommendations and treatment actions.
- Implement protocols for disposal of infested furniture and materials to include wrapping in tightly sealed plastic before disposal and labeled as infested and destroy or deface (slash mattresses and plush furniture, break box spring frames) the infested items to prevent others from unknowingly collecting and reusing them. See the Polk County Manual for Prevention and Control of Bed Bugs, Disposal of Infested Items.

C. Relocation companies, furniture delivery services and carpet installation companies should ensure that vehicles are inspected for bed bugs after each use and inspected by a licensed pest management professional once every ninety days. Warehouse or storage areas should also be inspected by a licensed pest management professional on a regular basis. Obtain a written report from the pest control technician after each inspection certifying the warehouse and trucks have been inspected.

D. Public storage units should:

- Conduct visual inspection of units regularly for signs of bed bugs. See the Inspection Guidelines of the Polk County Manual for Prevention and Control of Bed Bugs.
- Implement routine inspections by a licensed pest management professional every 90-120 days.
- Require renters to seal property such as furniture, bedding, and clothing in encasements, tightly sealed plastic bags, tightly sealed plastic containers and large items wrapped in air tight plastic.

E. Rental and second-hand furniture companies must ensure their furniture is free of bed bugs before placing the furniture in general inventory. Protocols should include:

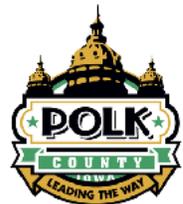
- Conduct bed bug inspections on all received furniture.
- Even if there is no evidence of bed bugs, conduct preventive treatment on bedroom furniture and plush furniture before placing in general inventory (paying particular attention to cracks and crevices in mattresses, mattress seams and dresser drawers). See the Polk County Manual for Prevention and Control of Bed Bugs, Treatment section.
- If bed bugs are found during inspection, suspend the use of infested furniture until a clearance is provided by the pest management professional that the infestation has been treated and the infested furniture can be returned to client service status.
- Incorporate monitoring controls for pre-delivery:
 - Conduct a pre-inspection of all living areas before delivering and/or placing furniture. Do not deliver when evidence of a pest insect is identified. Notify the customer and property owner/manager to notify them of potential infestation. Once the property has been fully treated, the delivery can be rescheduled.
 - Conduct pre-pick up visual inspections of furniture at time it is picked up to determine the presence of bed bugs. Do not pick up from customer locations that may be infested. Notify the customer and property/owner/manager of a potential infestation.
 - If contaminated property is being removed by a company, staff should wear proper protective garments (shoe covers, Tyvek suits and latex gloves), double bag the furniture with shrink-wrap and transport in a non-carpeted truck.
 - Attached are examples of Pre-Delivery and Pre-Pickup Checklists.

F. Carpet Installers should ensure the unit does not have active infestation and utilize the following protocols:

- Installers should always inspect for bed bugs prior to doing an installation. See inspection guidelines of the Polk County Manual for Prevention and Control of Bed Bugs.

- If there has been a bed bug infestation, ensure that pest control has serviced the unit PRIOR to demo of carpet and new installation to avoid infestation of new flooring.
- If installers arrive and unit is still found to be infested, leave the property and notify property owner. Schedule carpet installation after the unit has been re-serviced and bed bugs are no longer identified.
- If removal of infested carpet is conducted by the Installer, wrap carpet in shrink wrap plastic and after removal of contaminated carpet, treat the vehicle prior to future use.

**Polk County Health Department
Polk County Bed Bug Task Force**



Bed Bug Pre-Pickup Checklist:

1. Thoroughly inspect mattress and box spring for evidence of bed bugs.

_____ No evidence found

_____ Evidence found – notified operations manager

2. Thoroughly inspect lamps, headboards, nightstands and pictures in the sleeping area for evidence of bed bugs.

Visually inspect baseboards of bedroom areas for evidence of bed bugs.

_____ No evidence found

_____ Evidence found – notified operations manager

3. Visually inspect baseboards, carpet where it meets the baseboards and witch plates in sleeping areas for evidence of bed bugs.

_____ No evidence found

_____ Evidence found – Notified operations manager

4. Inspect outer perimeter of electrical switches and plates for evidence of bed bugs.

_____ No evidence found

_____ Evidence found – notified operations manager

Apt. Community _____ Apt. # _____

Pick-Up Team _____

Pick-Up Date _____

Bed Bug Pre-Delivery Checklist:

1. All furnishing loaded on the truck show no evidence of bed bugs? _____ True _____ False

2. Visually inspect baseboards of bedroom areas for evidence of bed bugs.
_____ No evidence found
_____ Evidence found – notified operations manager

3. Inspect area where carpet and baseboards meet for evidence of bed bugs.
_____ No evidence found
_____ Evidence found – Notified operations manager

4. Inspect outer perimeter of electrical switches and plates for evidence of bed bugs.
_____ No evidence found
_____ Evidence found – notified operations manager

Apt. Community _____ Apt. # _____

Delivery Team _____

Date Delivered _____