

CODE ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICE

---



The City of Hinesville's Code Enforcement Office is tasked with ensuring the Codes and Ordinances of the city are adhered to. The office operates under the leadership of the Director, Department of Inspections. Your feedback on our performance is always welcome as we strive to find the best balance between enforcement and customer service. Questions or comments concerning Code Enforcement can be directed to the Code Enforcement Office at (912) 876-4048 or (912) 876-4164.



CITY OF HINESVILLE, GEORGIA  
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTIONS,  
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

115 East M.L. King Jr. Drive  
Hinesville, Georgia 31313

Phone: (912) 876-4048 or (912) 876-4164  
Fax: (912) 876-4770  
[WWW.CityofHinesville.Org](http://WWW.CityofHinesville.Org)



*Home for a day or a lifetime.*

---

Telephone: (912) 876-4147

**BED BUGS**



# BED BUGS FACT SHEET



Bed bugs are small insects that feed on human blood. They are usually active at night when people are sleeping. Adult bed bugs have flat, rusty-red-colored oval bodies. About the size of an apple seed, they are big enough to be easily seen, but often hide in cracks in furniture, floors, or walls. When bed bugs feed, their bodies swell and become brighter red. They can live for several months without food or water.

Due to the high potential for cross infestation, the Code Enforcement Officer will not typically enter property that has experienced an infestation until the pest control measures have been taken.

## ABOUT BED BUGS

### **WHAT DOES A BED BUG BITE FEEL AND LOOK LIKE?**

Most bed bug bites are initially painless, but later turn into large, itchy skin welts. These welts do not have a red spot in the center like flea bites.

### **ARE BED BUGS DANGEROUS?**

Although bed bugs are a nuisance, they are not known to spread disease.

### **HOW DOES A PLACE BECOME INFESTED WITH BED BUGS?**

In most cases, people carry bed bugs into areas unknowingly, in infested luggage, clothing, blankets, and pillows. Hotels with high occupancy turnover are especially vulnerable to infestation. There is little that can be done to prevent guests from bringing in bed bugs. No residence is immune to a bed bug infestation.

### **HOW DO I KNOW IF AN AREA HAS BECOME INFESTED WITH BED BUGS?**

You should look for living or dead bed bugs, small bloodstains from crushed insects, or dark spots from droppings. You might find bed bug remains on the linens, the mattress and its seams, the bed springs, behind the headboard, in the seams of upholstered furniture, or even between floor boards.

### **HOW SHOULD I RESPOND TO BED BUGS?**

Have a plan in place to address bed bug infestations as soon as they occur.

When bed bugs are found, you should:

- Immediately wash potentially infested clothing and bedding in the hottest water and dried on the hottest cycle that is safe for the materials.
- Bring in a licensed pest control professional for a complete inspection and treatment of the room.
- Don't use the infested room until a pest control professional certifies it free of bed bugs.

### **ARE PESTICIDES NECESSARY FOR GETTING RID OF BED BUGS?**

The best way to get rid of bed bugs is to clean, disinfect, and eliminate their hiding places. Since bed bugs can live for several months without food and water, pest control professionals may recommend the use of a pesticide. Make sure your exterminator, uses the least toxic pesticide that will be effective, and avoids "insecticide bombs" and foggers" since they can spread hazardous chemicals throughout rooms, follows the directions on product labels., and treats mattresses and upholstered furniture with pesticides only if necessary, and only by applying small amounts of pesticides on top of mattresses or sitting surfaces