

Mefford Pest Control - Required Bed Bug Treatment Preparation



Basic Information Regarding Your Treatment:

For our sprays to have the greatest effect, you will need to prepare your residence for the spray. Although we cannot guarantee that one spray will eradicate the bed bugs, we know from experience that a prepared residence will require fewer follow-up sprays.

Scheduling: Be prepared to leave the home for at least **4 hours** during the spray. The chemicals will not harm you, but the treatment will require adequate time for the treatment to dry without being touched or walked through. In addition to this, the chemical does have an unpleasant odor that typically dissipates within a few hours.

Pets: Remove all pets from the home except for fish tanks. Fish tanks may remain, but must be covered with plastic wrap and should have the pumps turned off until you return to the home.

Bedding: Before the spray, you must remove all sheets, covers, dust ruffles, or other bedding from the mattresses and box springs. All bedding must be washed in the hottest water possible and should not be returned to the bed until 4 hours after the treatment.

If mattresses, box springs or other furniture is in poor shape or infested, they should be covered with plastic or placed in plastic mattress covers and removed from the home and discarded.

Personal Items: Stuffed animals, clothing, shoes, magazines, papers, etc. must be picked up. Both the floor and the furniture must be clutter-free and clear of any items. The bathtub, kitchen

counters, dining room tables, kitchen tables, and coffee tables may be used to place items during treatment.

Fabric-based items such as stuffed animals, curtains, etc. should be run through a pre-heated HOT dryer cycle for at least 15 minutes.

Vacuuming: Vacuum ALL carpeting, bed frames, backs of pictures, and any areas where bed bugs have been seen. After vacuuming, immediately empty the vacuum into a sealable plastic bag and dispose of it in an exterior dumpster or trash can.

Post-Treatment: Do not shampoo carpets or mop floors for at least 3 weeks after the treatment. The vacuum and broom may be used as desired, but continue to dump the vacuum canister immediately after use.

You may see evidence of live bed bugs for up to 3 weeks after the treatment; this is normal. If the problem persists after 3 weeks, it is advised that the homeowner call the office to schedule a follow-up spray. Tenants/renters should contact their management or landlord to approve scheduling.

Preventative Tips

- ★ Regularly wash & heat-dry bedding and any clothing touching the floor.
- ★ Reduce hiding places by cleaning up clutter.
- ★ Resist purchasing used furniture, but if purchasing, look for evidence of bed bugs before bringing it into your home.
- ★ Bed bugs are hitchhikers! When traveling, check hotel mattresses for evidence of bed bugs before unpacking.
- ★ Inspect items purchased at garage sales, flea markets, Goodwill, etc. before bringing them to your home and heat dry or launder the items as soon as possible.

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