

## **BEDBUG TREATMENT AND IPM**

Our treatment plan for the infestation was to perform all treatments with the safety of the resident as the primary emphasis. We also want to make sure that we have eliminated the problem, but in a safe manner. The pesticides that we utilized were the safest that we could use and still be effective.

The mattress was treated with steam generated from a handheld steaming device made by Oreck. Its original intended purpose was for the cleaning of furniture upholstery. The cracks of the box springs were treated with a Whitmire product PT 565 Plus XLO. It has as primary ingredients Pyrethrins, Piperonyl Butoxide, and Octyl Bicycloheptene Dicarboximide. This product is primarily a contact insecticide with little or no residual. The second Whitmire product that was used on the box springs cracks was Tri-Die. This is a combination of Pyrethrins, Piperonyl Butoxide, and Amphorus Silica Dioxide. These two Whitmire products are less toxic than many other insecticide products.

The carpet was pulled back and the wall cavity along the floor was treated with the Tri-Die. All of the electrical outlets were opened and the interior treated with Tri-Die. The carpet area was vacuumed and then treated with a liquid treatment of Suspend SC, which has main ingredient of Deltamethrin. Deltamethrin is in the class of chemicals called pyrethroids. This class of chemicals is very short lived in the environment.

We have placed devices under each leg to your bed and put a small amount of mineral oil in each device. The purpose of this is to isolate the bed from the surrounding area. If any bedbugs have been missed they will attempt to gain a meal from the person in the bed. The mineral oil mote will not allow them to crawl up the bed. We use mineral oil because it will not evaporate as water would.

Another IPM measure that you as the resident may choose to pursue is to obtain a vinyl mattress cover. I would suggest you look at Walmart, Bed Bath and Beyond, or Target. I would purchase two of the zippered type and place one on the mattress and one on the box springs. I do not feel that the mattress is as important as is the box springs. The box springs had so many areas that were difficult to treat and also it has a huge vacant space under the black covering. If any bedbugs were able to gain access to this huge area, our treatment probably did not reach them.

With the treatment that we performed and the heat that you applied to all of the bedding, clothing, and luggage, if these additional IPM measures are accomplished, we will have a great chance to have eliminated the problem. We will not know for sure until 4 to 6 weeks have passed. It will take that long for the life cycle to complete on any bedbugs that we missed. We will keep in contact with you and perform periodical inspections.

If there are any further ways that we may help you, please let me know.

Wayne Walker