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Bed Bugs Awareness

The new [2013 Bugs Without Borders survey](#), conducted by the National Pest Management Association and the University of Kentucky, found that 99.6% of nationwide surveyed pest management professionals have encountered a bed bug infestation during last year, compared to the 99% in 2011 and 95% from 2010.



Nearly half of respondents state that bed bug infestations are a seasonal problem occurring most often in the summer and least often in the winter. Many respondents continue to report infestations other than residences. 75% of survey respondents reported treating hotels, 47% college dorms, 33% hospitals, 21% transportation and 10% movie theaters. Since people tend to travel and relocate in the summer months, it is likely that a lot of them unknowingly transport the bugs back home from their travels, or discover them soon after moving.

Simple precautions can help prevent a bed bug infestation in your home:

1. When traveling, set your luggage in the bath tub as opposed to on the bed or floor. Conduct an inspection of beds and headboards before sleeping. Vacuum suitcases after returning from a vacation, and store them outside your home in the garage or outdoor storage cupboard. Launder clothes as soon as you return and use plastic bags to move items directly from the suitcase to the washing machine.
2. Check secondhand or rented furniture, beds and couches for any signs of bed bug infestation before bringing them home.
3. Reduce clutter in your home to reduce hiding places for bed bugs.
4. Launder new or secondhand clothes before hanging in the closet.
5. Launder bedding weekly.

The EPA has the following bed bug resources:

- Information website: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/bedbugs/>
- Bed Bug Clearinghouse: <http://www.epa.gov/bedbugs/bedbug-clearinghouse.html>
- Ten Tips to Prevent Bed Bugs: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/bed-bugs-faq-fs.html>
- "Travelers: Beware of Bed Bugs!" – handy reminder cards:
<http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/Publications/bedbug-traveler.pdf>
- Our AZ specific info can be found at: <http://cals.arizona.edu/pubs/insects/az1563.pdf>

For information from the NPMA on bed bugs, visit <http://www.pestworld.org/all-things-bed-bugs/>

Risks for Exposure to Bats

It is the time for summer camps and outdoor fun activities. Bat activity has increased as well. Our Arizona wildlife is truly wonderful, although bats, fox, skunks, and raccoons are the reservoir hosts for the rabies virus in the United States. Bats have been identified as the most common source of human rabies infections in the U. S., so learn and observe, but never handle or approach bats. Arizona has 28 recorded species of bats, covering desert, grassland, woodland, and urban areas, if you are observant, you can watch bats flying after dark in many locations.

Occasionally the presence of bats in a human environment may pose human health risk, and extreme care should be taken. Bat colonies that may pose an imminent human health threat include: bat colonies on school grounds or child care facilities, bats entering the building where people sleep, or a colony with potential exposure to children or pets. Potential exposure to children or pets can occur if a bat colony is roosting in an area where a sick bat may fall on the ground or other surface where children or pets can access.

All bat species are protected in Arizona and cannot be collected or killed by members of the general public, unless there is human or pet contact/exposure. When contact/exposure occurs, the bat should be collected and sent for rabies testing. Bat management should be performed by professionals licensed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. If direct physical contact with a wild bat does occur, wash the exposed area with soap and water immediately. Follow up with a medical doctor as soon as possible.

For more information, read “Batty about Bats” at: <http://cals.arizona.edu/pubs/insects/az1456.pdf>

Natural Insect Repellent

How can you keep mosquitoes away without DEET (some folks are sensitive to DEET)? Dr. Andrew Weil, director of the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine, gives advice about natural bug repellants. Geraniol, a compound derived from the geranium plant, repels a variety of insects, including mosquitoes, fleas and fire ants. Oil of lemon eucalyptus also can help keep bugs at bay. No repellents last all day long, and the hotter temperatures get, the shorter your protected period will be.



Read more: <http://www.prevention.com/health/natural-remedies/deet-free-bug-repellant>

Read more: <http://www.prevention.com/health/health-concerns/natural-essential-oils-repel-insects#ixzz2TIAaNDpS>

Environmental Education News and Reports

California Breathing Asthma Program is pleased to announce the release of an updated data source book on asthma [Asthma in California: A Surveillance Report](#). This report presents a comprehensive picture of the burden of asthma in the state, compiling all available asthma surveillance data into a single source.

To view the full report, click the link above or visit www.californiabreathing.org. This report is a valuable resource for those with interests in a broad spectrum of asthma-related issues, ranging from schools to housing to health care reform. It provides a wealth of data on asthma that can be used to inform policy and to help plan, implement, and evaluate interventions.

View the full report: <http://californiabreathing.org/asthma-data/burden-report>

Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments Webinar Series

Join EPA for their new webinar series based on the [Sensible Steps Brochure](#) (PDF) (26pp, 1.75MB) and the [State School Environmental Health Guidelines](#). The webinars share low- and no-cost actions that schools can take to create healthier environments for students and staff. Each webinar features school district staff from across the country presenting real-life examples of successes. The target audience includes facility maintenance staff, school nurses, administrators, teachers, and other school personnel and stakeholders. Look for the webinars highlighted below.

June 18, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [The Role of Indoor Air Quality \(IAQ\) in Creating Healthy Learning Environments](#)

July 23, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [Integrated Pest Management \(IPM\): Protecting Children in Schools from Pests and Pesticides](#)

August 20, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [Current Issues in Chemical Management, Best Practices for Schools and Districts](#)

September 25, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [Cleaning and Maintenance, Sensible Steps for Creating Healthier School Environments](#)

October 22, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [Sensible Steps for Energy Efficiency and Waste Reduction in Schools](#)

November 19, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [Sensible Steps for Mold and Moisture Control In Schools](#)

December 17, 3-4 p.m. Eastern: [Renovate Right: EPA's Renovation, Repair and Painting \(RRP\) Program at Schools](#)

Read more about Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments Webinar Series, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/schools/webinars.html>

Upcoming Webinars and Events

[Attend Free Sessions](#) of the Green Strides Webinar Series

The [Green Strides Webinar Series](#) provides school communities the tools to reduce their schools' environmental impact and costs; improve health and wellness; and teach effective environmental literacy, including STEM, green careers, and civic engagement. Find more sessions for educators, facilities managers, and advocates weekly, click [here](#).

June 12, 2013, 4-5 p.m. Eastern / 1-2 p.m. Arizona: [Summer Reading for Environmental Education \(EDN\)](#)

June 18, 2013, 3-4 p.m. Eastern / 12-1 p.m. Arizona: [A School Administrator's Role in a Successful Green Cleaning Program \(HSC\)](#)

June 18, 2013, 3-4 p.m. Eastern / 12-1 p.m. Arizona: [The Role of Indoor Air Quality \(IAQ\) in Creating Healthy Learning Environments \(EPA\)](#) [Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments Webinar Series](#)

June 26, 2013, 4-5 p.m. Eastern / 1-2 p.m. Arizona: [BioDiversity Discovery: Creating Next Generation Standards \(NPS\)](#)

June 13, 2013, 9-3:30 p.m. Free Summer School IPM Training: [How IPM Can Boost Achievement and Create a Safe and Healthy Learning Environment](#), Pike Freshman Center, 6801 Zionsville Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46268

This training will have two tracks, one for administrators and manager and one for custodial and maintenance staff. Sessions will include information on how to get an IPM program started, contracting, and the business case for IPM and opportunities for hands-on learning about monitoring, identification, and the applications of gels and baits. For more information visit: <http://www.ikecoalition.org/ipmtraining.html>

June 27-30: [NASN's School Nurse 45th Annual Conference](#) – Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel, Orlando, Florida

The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) is hosting a one-day School Nurse Managing Asthma Triggers Program (MAT). This train-the-trainer program will highlight EPA's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools guidance and resources (<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/excellence.html>), and show schools nurses how these resources can help them better manage asthma in their schools. This training will take place on June 26, 2013, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET. It will be held in conjunction with NASN's 45th Annual Conference, June 27-30, 2013, at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel, Orlando, Florida (<http://schoolnursenet.nasn.org/NASN2013/Home/>)!

July 8-11, 2013: "Going Buggy" 4 day camp, 9-11am age 6-9 year olds; 2-4pm age 9-12 year olds [Arizona Museum of Natural History](#), 53 N MacDonald, Mesa, AZ 85201

This is a 4 consecutive day camp that will be held in two sessions each day. Subject will include bugs from prehistoric times, to the present time through a series of demonstrations, crafts, and creative activities. Kids will learn about bugs and IPM concepts. Read more: <http://apps.mesaaz.gov/news/ArticleView.aspx?id=37771>

For more information about the EPA Schools program, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/schools/>

For more information about the Community IPM, visit: <http://www.extension.org/pages/23359/urban-integrated-pest-management-community-page>





For more information about School IPM in Arizona, visit:

<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html>

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