



Integrated Pest Management for Bed Bugs

Foothill Horizons is committed to preventing any child from contracting bed bugs on site. We recognize that bed bugs are a national issue and will be brought to our site by one or more of our 7,000 yearly participants. Our goal is to be proactive in preventing infestations, spreading bed bugs to other participants, and to prevent bed bugs from infecting the homes of our participants. We are committed to the community we serve and maintaining a relationship founded on trust, integrity, and honest communication. It is our policy to notify participants of any incidents of bed bugs at Foothill.

To achieve these goals we have developed a four-pronged IPM Plan for bed bugs at Foothill Horizons. The plan consists of advance parent notification, staff training, dormitory maintenance, and care of the students.

1. Advance Parent Notification

All parents receive advance notification of bed bugs in the Parent Information form on bed bugs. As quoted here:

BED BUGS

More than 7,000 people visit Foothill Horizons during the course of a year, and occasionally they unintentionally bring bed bugs with them. We are contracted with Clark Pest Control to treat and inspect for Bed Bugs monthly. Every weekend our staff inspects all dorms and during your child's stay. We believe in honesty and will notify you of any suspicion of bed bugs.

For best practice, we strongly encourage families to:

BEFORE AND AFTER your child's trip:

1. Visually inspect items for bugs.
2. Tumble dry bedding and luggage in a clothes dryer on high heat for 30 minutes.
3. Spray all non-washable luggage with alcohol-based spray (such as Lysol). *For more information about and pictures of bed bugs_*
<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/bed-bugs-in-residences/>.

In the event of bed bugs

We are committed to the community we serve and maintaining a relationship founded on trust, integrity, and honest communication. It is our policy to notify participants of any incidents of bed bugs at Foothill.



Foothill Horizons will work with participating schools to notify parents. Foothill Horizons will notify families of students who have bites.

2. Training

All staff will be trained according to the following methods listed below in order to discover and respond to any signs of bed bug activity as promptly as possible.

- Custodial and Maintenance staff are trained by Clark Pest Control in thoroughly inspecting dorm for bed bugs and evidence of bed bugs. This training includes scraping cracks for bed bugs, using flash lights, where to look for bed bugs, and signs of bed bugs.
- Naturalists, interns, counselors, and all staff involved in Health Office duties are trained to recognize signs of bed bugs. These signs include bite patterns on students as well as signs of infestation within the dorms. A visual example of bed bugs, bite patterns, and infestation signs are kept in the Health Office.
- Volunteer counselors, who spend the most time with the students, are encouraged to observe students for signs of bites and rashes, and to send them to the Health Office for further observation. Counselors are also shown what bed bugs look like and instructed to kill any insect in the dorms, save it and show it to a staff member.

3. Preventive Treatment: Dormitories

Inspections

Dormitories are inspected each weekend by maintenance/custodial staff who have been trained by a pest management company. All dorms are determined to be clear of bed bugs each weekend.

Dormitories are inspected on a rotating basis throughout the week. Dormitories where bed bugs have recently been found are inspected daily or more often.

Inspections look for:

- Signs of infestation on walls and mattresses-fecal matter or casings
- Live or dead bed bugs
- Ripped or torn mattresses

Cleaning of dorms

The dorms will be kept clean with particular attention to preventing bed bugs from finding safe habitats in the dormitories through the following methods:

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- Dorms will be vacuumed thoroughly (cracks, crevices, under drawers) to reduce hiding places for bed bugs under debris or dust.
- Walls, cracks, and crevices will be kept clear of fecal matter, casings or carcasses to ensure inspections are detecting new infections.
- Old and torn mattresses will be removed from dorms and repaired to ensure each mattress is sealed so as to not allow bed bugs into mattresses.

Foothill staff will reduce places for bats to roost near the dorms to minimize the opportunity for bat bed bugs or human bed bugs to have other food sources.

Clark Pest Control

Twice a year, Clark Pest Control will complete a full interior treatment including:

- liquid residual material applied to walls around beds, cracks, below mattresses
- a powder dust applied to all cracks and crevices

This process requires removing all mattresses and stacking them in the middle of the dormitories and removing excess material with vacuum or damp rag by Foothill staff.

Monthly, Clark Pest Control will:

- inspect all dorm rooms for bed bugs
- Spot treat or treat cracks as needed

Respond to emergency calls promptly

4. Student Care

As students are our first priority, Foothill Horizons is committed to treating suspicious bed bug bites to the best of our abilities and to minimize exposure to other children.

- A student who exhibits signs of possible bed bug bites will be examined by the Health Office staff. The student's condition will be documented in the Health Log, along with pertinent information such as date and to which dorm the student is assigned.
- Bites will be treated per standard first aid procedures.
- If the Health Office staff determines that the student(s) exhibits possible bed bug bites, the student's counselor, naturalist, and the custodial/maintenance staff are notified. The counselor and naturalist will observe the other students in the group for bites. The custodian or maintenance person will inspect the dorm immediately. The site Principal will be kept informed of these situations. See Bed Bug binder, protocol, and check lists.
- If signs of bed bugs are found, staff will notify Clark Pest Control



Initiating Bed Bug response protocol

In the event of suspicious bites or if a bed bug is found, Cimex protocol will be initiated. Foothill Staff will:

- Follow the document titled Cimex Checklist
- Consult Cimex Checklist Supplement as needed
- Record all findings on the dorm floor plan map
- Record all findings on the Cimex log

Resources:

This plan was made in consultation with Clark Pest Control. The following resources were utilized:

University of Minnesota Extension:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/bed-bugs-in-residences/>.

California Outdoor School Association resources from various institutions for best practices for the prevention of bed bugs.

California Department of Health: Guidance For Property Owners And Tenants On The Control And Prevention Of Bed Bug Infestations In California, REV: Sept. 2017 and <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/BedBugs.aspx>