



# How to Dispose of Bed Bug Infested Items

## So it's infested...Now what?

If you think you have bed bugs contact a pest control specialist **before** throwing anything away. Have your home inspected and treated. Most items can be treated and do not need to be thrown away so save yourself time and money by following the instructions given to you by your pest control specialist. If you do decide to throw something away follow these guidelines:

- Seal the items in heavy duty plastic before removing them
- All plastic should be taped so that there are no openings
- Handle sealed infested items carefully so that you do not damage the wrapping
- If possible, dispose of items in a sealable garbage container so bed bugs can't escape
- Cut or deface mattresses, box springs, bedframes, and upholstered furniture to discourage someone from taking it into their home
- Label all items by writing on the bag or attaching a sign that says "BED BUG INFESTED – DO NOT TAKE"
- Items to be discarded should be placed outside close to trash pickup time to reduce the chance of someone taking it into their own home
- Do not donate infested items

Make sure your home is bed bug free before you buy new furniture or other items

Wichita Falls-Wichita County Public Health Department, April 2015



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