

# Bed Bugs



Bed bugs do not transmit disease but bites can cause irritation and sleep disturbance, or may become infected.

Bed bugs can hitchhike on backpacks, clothing, and mobility devices but are unlikely to establish except in dormitories and other residential settings. Integrated pest management (IPM) methods for bed bugs include inspection, heat treatment, and education.

Find resources at:

[neipmc.org/schools](http://neipmc.org/schools)

Northeastern  
**IPM**  
Center

*This publication was supported by an agreement with Cornell University, CCE NORTH-EASTERN IPM CENTER, under Prime Agreement 2014-70006-22484 from NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE-USDA.*

## What Schools Can Do:



- Accurately identify bugs.  
Bites alone are not diagnostic.
- Develop school response and communication plan in advance.
- Seal infested items (eg. backpacks) in plastic bag or place in dryer for 30 mins at high heat setting.
- Provide parents with information about controlling bed bugs at home.
- Vacuum rugs, furniture and cots regularly.

Free certificate training at:

[StopSchoolPests.org](http://StopSchoolPests.org)

