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## **BED BUG FAQ**

**Q: What are Bed Bugs?**

**A:** Bed bugs are parasitic insects that feed on the blood of humans.

**Q: What do bed bugs look like?**

**A:** Adult bed bugs look something like an apple seed and are small, oval in shape and reddish-brown in color. Juvenile bed bugs or nymphs are smaller and are clearer or tan in color.

**Q: Can I see bed bugs?**

**A:** Yes. However bed bugs are most active at night and due to their cryptic nature they are not often seen during the day.

**Q: Where do bed bugs hide?**

**A:** Because bed bugs are small and flat, they are able to squeeze into fine cracks and crevices on the mattress and box spring, behind headboards and inside of furniture. Bed bugs prefer to live in groups and are often in clusters where the adults, juveniles and eggs are all together and protected.

**Q: How do you get them?**

**A:** Bed bugs are adept hitchhikers. They travel in luggage, on clothing and inside of furniture. They are found in hotels, movie theaters, train cars, airplanes and many other public places where people are at rest for a period of time.

**Q: What do bed bug bites look like?**

**A:** Bed bug bites are difficult to distinguish from that of a flea or mosquito bite because not all skin reactions are the same. Bed bugs will bite the exposed skin of humans while they are sleeping or at rest. The most common areas for bites are the neck, face, arms, legs and hands.

**Q: How does GCO Pest Solutions treat for bed bugs?**

**A:** GCO Pest Solutions uses traditional insecticide treatments with the most advanced and proven EPA approved products.

**Q: How many treatments will it take to get rid of bed bugs?**

**A:** Generally at least two treatments are needed depending on the severity of the infestations. This is because bed bugs eggs, which are very small and hard to locate, may survive the initial treatment. When they hatch into juvenile bed bugs, they are not always affected by the pesticide residual of the prior treatments. The treatments are usually spaced approximately 3 weeks apart.

**Q: Should I throw out my mattress and furniture?**

**A:** In most cases your current furniture can be saved and treated successfully. If you do decide to throw them out, please deface or destroy the items so that they are undesirable to others and the problem doesn't spread.

**Q: How do I prepare for a bed bug treatment?**

**A:** The following document and checklist is designed to ensure you receive the most out of your bed bug treatment. The better you prepare prior to treatment, the higher rate of success using fewer treatments you will see saving both time and money.