

Seniors should be on the look out for bedbugs

Bed bugs are making a comeback!

According to a report issued by Terminex, Columbus is the 7th most infested city in the U.S. Make sure you know the facts about bed bugs and what to look for.

Bed bugs do not favor any income level. Anyone can have bed bugs. A bed bug infestation is not a reflection of poor hygiene or bad housekeeping. Since bed bugs can hide in many other places than just the mattress it is important to minimize clutter.

Seniors living in apartment complexes should be extra vigilant of this problem since bed bugs frequently appear in areas

where there is a high rate of occupant turnover. They can also be easily transported and appear places such as, schools, movie theaters, hotels, motels, dormitories, shelters, apartments and nursing homes.

Bed bugs are parasitic insects. Their bites can produce red welts that can appear as late as two weeks after an encounter. Adult bed bugs are brown to reddish-brown, oval-shaped, flattened, and are about the size of an apple seed.

A bed bug infestation can be recognized by blood stains from crushed bugs or by rusty (often dark) spots on sheets and mattresses, bed clothes, and walls. They usually attack at night and hide during the daylight.

Bed bugs will not go away on their own and will require a licensed pesticide control applicator to perform chemical

treatments. It is important to act quickly to get help as bed bugs are much easier to get rid of when an infestation is small. Although, home insecticides are available they are ineffective for killing bed bugs. They can also be dangerous and actually make the problem worse.

Visit www.centralohiobedbugs.org for more information.