

Pest Control

Keeping your home pest-free is important for the health and well-being of your family, your neighbors and your community.

What is a Pest?

A pest is an insect or animal that can cause harm or damage to people and property. Pests may include insects such as bed bugs, cockroaches, ants, wasps and animals such as mice, skunks or pigeons. Most pests are attracted to food or open beverages.

How can I prevent pests from getting into my home?

Preventing pest's access to food, water, shelter and keeping your home clean are important steps in preventing any pest infestations.

- Clean up spills immediately and keep the kitchen counter tops clean.
- Keep food in tightly sealed plastic or glass containers rather than in paper or cardboard the pests can chew through and lay eggs in.
- Do not allow dirty dishes to pile up, especially overnight. If you cannot wash them immediately, leave them to soak in detergent and water.
- Regularly clean dark and/or damp areas close to a food source E.g. under and behind the refrigerator or stove.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor often.
- Rinse containers before putting them in the garbage or recycle bins.
- Keep the yard, patio or balcony free of food and garbage to avoid attracting pests such as wasps and ants.
- Do not feed birds – this encourages flocking to the site and is a food source

attractive to other animals (mice, squirrels, raccoons)

- Keep the grass maintained to prevent pest infestations.

Tips for Bedbugs

- Never bring used furniture, mattresses or box-springs from outside sources such as garbage bins into your home. Bedbugs will not be killed leaving an item outside for a couple weeks.
- Check items for signs of bedbugs before you bring them into your home.
- Reduce places where bedbugs can hide by cleaning clutter and throwing away old items.
- Check your bags and clothes for bedbugs after travelling. Washing clothing in hot water and drying at a high temperature will kill bedbugs.

What Should I do if I Find a Pest in My Home?

Do not try and eliminate pests with chemicals or pesticides on your own as these can be dangerous. Do not use a gas of any kind.

Report to the Program Manager. If you find any kind of pest in your home, report it immediately. You will not be evicted for reporting pests. It is important to report to prevent the spread to neighboring homes. The earlier treatment is started the quicker it can be contained.



Do not try treating pests such as bedbugs or cockroaches yourself. Please contact your Program Manager for assistance.