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Bedbug Notice

There have been one or more confirmed reports of bedbugs within the complex. The pest control company is treating those units and will be inspecting adjacent units. Please inspect your own unit thoroughly, even if you are not being bitten. Some people don't react to the bite of a bedbug. The following information is designed to educate you on what to look for and what to do if you find them.

Mature bedbugs are about the size of an apple seed. Immature bedbugs can be much harder to see. Larvae are very tiny. Usually what people notice when they look at the crevices in their bed or furniture, are little brown streaks and spots. That's the bedbug's waste. Bedbugs hide often in the crevices of mattresses, but also in other upholstered furniture, books, clothes, linens, cardboard boxes, handbags, backpacks, even child safety seats or bouncers. They can travel from one unit to another. If you find bites on yourself or a family member, or find an active problem, please take the following steps:

- 1. Don't panic this does not mean you are the source of the problem or that you are somehow unclean.
- 2. Report the problem to management You will not be charged for the costs of eradication or treatment.
- 3. Prepare for invasive inspection and treatment the pest control company representative will need to look all through your unit, including your bed and box spring, but also your other furniture, closets, drawers, bags, boxes, purses, backpacks, etc.
- 4. Follow all of the instructions from the pest control company, this may include monitoring traps, and submitting to frequent inspections.
- 5. Continue to inspect your own unit and continue to follow instructions from the pest control company until they determine the problem is resolved.

Encourage children to leave their blankets, backpacks and stuffed animals at home. If your child has a sleepover, inspect their items when they come home, put all of their clothes, soft toys, stuffed animals or backpacks in the dryer for 2030 minutes to kill any possible bedbugs. It can take weeks to successfully eradicate an infestation, so persistence is important. The pest control company will provide traps for under bed frame legs, mattress covers and box spring covers. Heat above 120 degrees can also kill bedbugs, so bedding, pillows, stuffed animals, and other smaller fabric items can be placed in a dryer on high heat for 20-30 minutes to kill the bedbugs and larvae.

What NOT to do:

- Don't move your sleeping area, it will only cause the bedbugs to spread.
- Don't throw stuff out, you will not be reimbursed for your furniture, pillows, clothing or other personal items and they can be treated. Also, someone else may take home your stuff, contributing to a spread of the infestation. If you want to rid yourself of a piece of furniture that contains bedbugs, please contact your manager to make arrangements for that.
 Don't just put the furniture outside your unit.
- Don't use over-the-counter bedbug treatments as bedbugs have developed immunity to many of the chemicals so they are largely ineffective, and it may drive adults away from your unit to someone else's.
- Don't use exterior bug products inside, it can make you sick.
- Don't bring home used furniture. You may bring home a hitchhiker.
- Don't use bug bombs. They are largely ineffective at eradicating bedbugs, and can cause an explosion if too many are set off at one time.
- Don't treat your body with insecticide. Bedbugs feed for only a few minutes then return to their safe harbor, you will only harm yourself.
- Don't try to eradicate bedbugs with "home remedies," they won't work.
 That includes diatomaceous earth, moth balls, peppermint oil, citronella, tee tree oil or lavender.

If bedbugs are found in your unit, you are required to comply with all efforts to assist the pest control company with their eradication efforts. And while you won't be charged for the cost of treatment, you may be charged for treatments if you do not follow the instructions of the pest control company. You also will not be reimbursed for anything you choose to throw away or for your costs or time related to assisting with the eradication.

Tia Politi, Property Manager – 541-972-0853