

RENTAL AND/OR REUSE OF USED MATTRESSES, BEDDING AND UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

DEFINITIONS

9.10 “Bed bug(s)” means either the common bed bug (*Cimex lectularius*) or the tropical bed bug (*Cimex hemipterus*).

9.11 “Bed bug infestation” means the presence or harborage of bed bugs and/or bed bug eggs in used mattresses, bedding or upholstered furniture or in a building.

9.12 “Chemical sanitizer” means an EPA registered biocide effective in eliminating live bed bugs and pathogenic microorganisms of public health concern and approved by the manufacturer for direct application on the surface(s) of furniture used primarily for sleeping.

9.13 “Control” means in the context of these Regulations, steps to prevent and eliminate bed bug infestation.

9.14 “Mattress Equivalent” means, and is limited to, mattresses or other parts of furniture used primarily for sleeping.

9.15 “Harborages” means places where bed bugs hide.

9.16 “Integrated Pest Management Plan (IMP)” means a multidisciplinary approach to pest management with the aim to maximize the control of insect infestations by the use of multiple methods. IPM is based on the proper identification of the pest, knowledge of the pest’s ecology, non-chemical means of control, and the judicious use of insecticides.

9.17 “Sanitary” means being in a healthy condition that does not pose a threat to public health and safety.

9.18 “Socially Disadvantaged” means people who for whatever reason are unable to control their own circumstances.

9.19 “Standardized training” means the processes of training personnel to consistently meet a minimum standard of knowledge and skill by instruction and practice.

9.20 “Unsanitary” means being in state this is not sanitary.

9.2 INSPECTION FOR BED BUG INFESTATION

9.2 (A) INTRODUCTION

Bed bug infestations may be found in buildings and on furniture, therefore, attention to detail is required. The intent of the inspection process is to detect every possible bed bug harborage items returned to the dealer. One of the most common reasons for control failures is the result of inspections that fail to reveal all hiding places. Bed bugs are brown to reddish-brown, oval shaped, flattened, and about 3/16 to 1/5 inch long. The flat shape of bed bugs enables them to readily hide in cracks and crevices. The bed bug body becomes more elongate, swollen and dark red after a blood meal. Newly hatched nymphs are nearly colorless, becoming brownish as they mature. Nymphs have the general appearance of adults. Bed bug eggs are white and about 1/32 inch long. Bed bugs appear to prefer wood, paper and fabric surfaces and so these materials should be paid special attention to during the inspection process.

9.2 RECEIPT OF USED MATTRESSES, BEDDING, AND UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE BY A BUSINESS

9.2.1 Commercially reasonable efforts shall be made to inspect all merchandise to be received by a business subject to this Section. In addition, close attention should be paid to the seams, under buttons, handles, labels, corner protectors, if not previously removed, of the mattress, base of mattress, the material underneath the mattress base, head boards, nightstand drawers and other fabric surfaces; all for the presence of bed bugs and unsanitary conditions.

9.2.2 It may be necessary to remove the dust cover under the box spring. Bed bugs can also hide in coils of bed springs and inside hollow bed posts, and reasonable efforts to inspect the same should be undertaken if there is a suspicion of bed bug infestation unless items are disposed of as provided 9.3.1

9.2.3 If the premises and merchandise appear to be free from bed bug infestation, the furniture can be transported to the receiving business's vehicle according to the following procedures:

9.2.3.1 Reasonable attempts must be taken to prevent the cross-contamination of unsanitized and sanitized mattress equivalents.

9.2.3.2 After mattress equivalents and other bedding is removed, re-inspect the remaining head boards, nightstand drawers, and other fabric surfaces for the presence of bed bugs and unsanitary conditions, if the merchandise appears to be free from infestation, the items can then be loaded into a vehicle.

9.3 UNSANITARY USED MATTRESSES, BEDDING AND UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

9.3.1 Used mattresses and bedding that contain evidence of a bed bug infestation must be immediately wrapped and sealed in plastic, labeled with a legible and conspicuous label declaring the bed bug infested contents, and arrangements made to cause the infested contents to be taken to a Health Authority approved disposal facility.

9.3.2 A business may not introduce any unsanitary used furniture which has visible blood, urine, fecal matter or other proteinaceous material which can be determined by the use of scientific devices such as a black light, into its warehouse facility's inventory without Health Authority approved method of sanitization or transfer unsanitized used furniture to the socially disadvantaged or a charitable organization.

9.4 BED BUG CONTROL MEASURES

9.4.1 BED BUG DETECTION DOGS

9.4.1.1 Bed bug infestations may be detected by the use of a trained bed bug detection dog with a certified handler. Dogs must be trained at an accredited facility with the National Entomology Scent Detection Canine Association (NESDCA). A quality control system must be used daily as part of the process to assess the accuracy of detection by the bed bug detection dog(s).

9.4.1.2 Bed bug detection dogs may be utilized for detecting small infestations that are not always obvious during an inspection by humans. Detection dogs may also be useful to check the success of a bed bug infestation control program. It should be noted that bed bug detection dogs are not always accurate and harborage areas where dogs cannot access must be inspected using the aforementioned procedures.

9.4.2 MATTRESS ENCASEMENTS

9.4.2.1 White seamless mattress covers with specialized anti-bed bug encasement may be utilized on rental mattresses to lower potential harborage areas. The white mattress cover allows for easier detection of the presence of bed bugs.

9.4.2.2 The mattress encasements should include: small zipper teeth that prevent juvenile bed bugs from passing through, few seams and tightly stitched joints, an in-built bite-proof membrane, end zipper stops that prevent bed bug escape or entry.

9.4.2.3 The mattress rental customer may purchase a specialized mattress encasement, in which case, the customer shall be educated on how to properly remove the mattress cover for laundering (hot washed and hot dried), and how to replace the mattress covering(s). It is recommended that the mattress encasement be immediately placed back on mattress after laundering. It is important to note that mattress encasements do not themselves stop bed bugs.

9.4.2.4 Mattress encasements may be used as part of an overall bed bug control program.

9.4.3 VACUUMING OF USED MATTRESSES, BEDDING AND UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

9.4.3.1 The vacuum equipment utilized for vacuuming used mattresses, bedding and upholstered furniture shall be of the canister type, with a replaceable filter bag.

9.4.3.2 The vacuum cleaner bag must be replaced when full or no less than once per week. The vacuum canister and area where the filter bag is attached must be sanitized with a chemical sanitizer whenever the filter bag is replaced. If the vacuum is used on a piece that is determined to be infested with bed bugs, the vacuum must be sanitized with a chemical sanitizer immediately with the following procedure:

9.4.2.2.1 The filter bag and filter must be removed and disposed of in an air tight plastic bag, labeled with a legible and conspicuous label declaring the bed bug infested contents, and taken to a Health Authority approved disposal facility if there is any suspicion that bed bug infested furniture has been vacuumed.

9.4.3.2.2 The vacuum hoses must be thoroughly cleaned with hot soapy water, and with hot water running through the hoses, and the vacuum canister where the filter bag is located must be sanitized with a chemical sanitizer if there is suspicion that bed bug infested furniture has been vacuumed.

9.4.4 THE USE OF CHEMICAL SANITIZER(S)

The chemical sanitizer must meet the requirements specified by the definition of “chemical sanitizer” herein. The application of any chemical sanitizer on mattress equivalents must be in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications. Personnel must be properly trained on how to utilize the chemical sanitizer. In the case of leather, vinyl and other non-fabric upholstered furniture, a disinfecting agent, other than a chemical sanitizer which will not harm the merchandise may be utilized as long as the merchandise is appropriately sanitized consistent

with the manufacturer's guidelines for product cleaning and maintenance, in the reasonable discretion of the SNHD.

9.5 SANITIZATION OF VEHICLES / DOCKS USED FOR FURNITURE RETURNS

9.5.1 Areas where used furniture is inspected or sanitized must be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, including daily sweeping or vacuuming and removal of packing materials and debris after all the inspection activities are completed for the day.

9.5.2 A signed sanitization log must be maintained for at least one (1) calendar year for the inspection area and the delivery trucks. The periodic cleaning and sanitizing of the inspection area and furniture delivery truck must incorporate a commercially reasonable bed bug control strategy.

9.5.3 If there is evidence of bed bug infestation in any furniture delivery ~~truck~~ vehicle or furniture storage area, a licensed pest control operator who is knowledgeable and experienced in managing bed bug infestations should be contacted with a written integrated pest management plan (IPM) requested and implemented.

9.6 STANDARDIZED TRAINING OF USED FURNITURE PERSONNEL

9.6.1 Personnel involved directly in the transportation, sanitization and cleaning of used merchandise must receive standardized training on bed bug control practice and techniques.

9.6.2 The record of the standardized training method(s) and assessment(s) must be included in the furniture business' facility's plan of operation.

9.6.3 Personnel involved directly in the transportation, sanitization and cleaning of merchandise must receive standardized training on bed bug control practices and techniques. This training shall be conducted as part of the new hire orientation process and repeated at a minimum ~~of~~ annually for all employees who are directly involved. Standardized training shall mean training on the following:

- (a) Recognizing and identifying bed bugs and infestations.
- (b) Proper methods of inspection
- (c) Proper methods of sanitization
- (d) Procedure to report a potential infestation
- (e) Pick up Procedures if the furniture is infested.

9.6.4 Training records must be maintained for a minimum of two years (The current year and the prior year).

9.7.0 SANITIZATION FACILITY DESIGN AND OPERATION

9.7.1 Each business subject to this Section engaging in the sanitization of used mattresses, bedding and upholstered furniture shall have at least two (2) distinct processing areas, including temporary areas: one delineated area for the sanitization and cleaning of used mattresses, bedding and upholstered furniture, and one storage area for the sanitized product.

9.7.2 The sanitization and storage areas shall be clearly marked when in use by signage that designates the functions of each space with prohibitions regarding the commingling of unsanitized merchandise and any sanitized product.

9.7.3 Adequate lighting (a minimum of 50 foot-candles of light at the surface of the work area) shall be provided in the sanitization area during the inspection, observation and cleaning process (es).

9.7.4 Areas designated for sanitization of used mattresses, bedding, and upholstered furniture shall be clean, sanitary, well lighted in accordance with 9.7.3, free from vermin, and uncluttered as determined in the reasonable discretion of the SNHD, taking into consideration Sections 4 and 5 but only to the extent applicable and commercially reasonable for the limited purpose of inspecting and sanitizing used mattresses, bedding, and upholstered furniture.

9.8.0 COMMERCIAL SANITIZATION LAW LABELS

9.8.1 In addition to the commercial sanitization labeling requirements outlined in Section 6 of these Regulations, each business subject to this Section engaging in the sanitization of mattress equivalents may replace an existing Health Authority approved sanitization label with a new Health Authority approved sanitization label after each sanitization process in accordance with Section 9.4.4 of these Regulations.

9.9 PLAN OF OPERATION

9.9.1 Each business subject to this Section shall submit a plan of operation for approval by the Health Authority.

9.9.2 The plan of operation shall outline the bed bug control program, including all applicable bed bug control measures, for used mattresses, bedding and upholstered furniture.

9.9.3 The plan of operation must be approved by the Health Authority prior to its implementation. So long as the plan of operation contains an integrated plan of inspection, isolation, and sanitization consistent with this Section 9 of the regulations, the plan shall, in the reasonable discretion of the SNHD be approved. Approval of a plan of operation shall take into consideration Sections 1 through 8 of these Regulations, but only to the extent applicable and commercially reasonable for the limited purpose of inspecting and sanitizing used mattresses, bedding, and upholstered furniture. Without limitation, the following sections are not applicable to businesses subject to this Section 9: 4.2 (Submission of certain documents for a Letter of Approval for Reciprocity), 5.6 (Lighting), 6.1 (Methods of Sanitization), 6.2 (Heat treatment-dry heat method), 6.3 (Lot), 6.4 (Materials), 6.5.7 (labeling for repairer or renovator), 6.5.10.2 (label for materials which are whole or in part secondhand (used)), 6.5.10.3 (label for “owner’s material”), 6.5.11.3 (label for new or secondhand (used) filling material), and 6.5.11.5 (labels for commercial remanufacturers or refurbishers) of these Regulations.

9.10.0 HEALTH PERMIT

9.10.1 All businesses subject to this Section within the jurisdiction of the Health Authority must apply for and obtain a health permit according the requirements set forth in these Regulations.

9.10.2 The health permit application fee(s) and operation fee(s) shall be according to the latest edition of the Environmental Health Fee Schedule.