

## **General facts about bed bugs:**

1. Recently there has been an increased amount of information in the media about bed bugs. They have been found in many of the places that we frequent such as hotels, clothing stores and warehouses, movie theaters, and homes.
2. Bed bugs are a growing, worldwide problem emanating from increased global travel and decreased use of pesticides.
3. Bed bugs are small, flat, oval, wingless insects (about one-fifth of an inch) that crawl at a steady rate and are visible to the naked eye. Similar to mosquitoes, bed bugs bite humans to feed on blood; however, unlike mosquitoes, they do not transmit disease.
4. Being nocturnal insects, their daytime hiding places include crevices, bed frames, mattresses and box springs, behind electrical outlet covers and picture frames, inside drawers of furniture, within pleats of curtains, in clothes discarded on the floor, and in other spaces where they are not easily detected.
5. Bed bugs are not generally carried on individuals but rather personal possessions.
6. For further information, please visit the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#).

## **What you can do:**

1. If you suspect that you have seen a bed bug or are unsure of what you have seen, please contact your Residence Director to inquire about a check of your area or the Department of Housing and Residential Education at 302.857.6326. Effective management of bed bugs should begin at the first sign of a problem.
2. If you develop a rash that you suspect may have been caused by bites from bed bugs, please schedule an appointment at the Student Health Service for an evaluation at 302.857.6393.

## **What you should NOT do if you believe you have bedbugs:**

1. Do not panic. Bed bugs can be battled safely and successfully if you follow the guidelines given to you by Department of Housing and Residential Education.
2. Do not apply pesticides on your own. Contact Department of Housing and Residential Education at 302.857.6326 immediately.
3. Do not move your mattress, furniture, or personal items (book bags, duffle bags, etc.) out into the hallway. Infested furniture can be cleaned and treated. Placing infested items (especially mattresses) into common areas may simply help spread bed bugs to other rooms or suites.
4. Do not sleep in a friend's room or in places off campus. If you actually have bed bugs, you will only spread them to others.