

BED BUG AWARENESS 101

If you believe there are bed bugs in your on-campus apartment, please contact your RA, the “MyRA” line (740-351-6972), or the Office of Housing and Residence Life (740-351-3549) **IMMEDIATELY!** Proper pest control technicians will then be contacted to inspect and treat your apartment as needed. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Office of Housing and Residence Life.

Identifying the Problem:

- An indication that there may be a bed bug infestation is always small blood spots found on bedding.
- Many times bed bug bites cannot be distinguished from mosquito bites or bites of other small insects. The sites of bites become welts and itch intensely. Should you notice any bites, please contact the SSU Health Clinic (740-351-4362).

Controlling the Problem:

- Do not remove bedding or other items to other rooms in an effort to relieve the problem prior to consultation with the pest control technicians. This action may cause the spread of the problem to other rooms.
- Do not share clothing or other items with residents in potentially infested rooms or those who may have come into contact with them. Until the problem is identified and solved, all precautions should be taken to insure that the problem remains isolated so it may be adequately treated and solved.
- Remain calm and do not panic! Practice rumor control and confidentiality. Most of these situations are NOT bed bugs, but the other causes may be equally troubling to residents, roommates, and other community members. It normally takes months for a severe infestation to spread to other rooms within the same general area. The probability that the situation is bed bugs is low and the chance the situation has spread is even lower! Qualified pest control technicians will evaluate the situation and determine if there is indication that additional inspection and/or treatment is necessary.

