

# Bedbugs from the Perspective of the Business Owner



## RIGHTS

- Right to make a profit and conduct business in a way that is congruent with your mission.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- To ensure products being sold to your customers are free of pest infestations.
- To take reasonable efforts to eliminate risks associated with such infestations.

## RESOURCES

Sioux Falls Health Department ..... 605-367-8284  
(Education and general info)

Sioux Falls Building Services ..... 605-367-8673  
(Building- or landlord-related issues or more information on the Property Maintenance Code)

SDMHA (South Dakota Multi-Housing Assoc.) ..... 605-336-7756  
(Multi-housing questions or concerns)

CDC information: [www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/topics/bedbugs.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/topics/bedbugs.htm)





It is important to acknowledge that these pests DO exist and that their presence in businesses and homes is an unfortunate reality. Any business can be faced with this problem and it is not a sign of poor management, housekeeping, or procedures. Taking a proactive approach is the most cost-effective and responsible way; however, a plan should also exist when you are forced to react to reports of populations.

If your business deals with furniture or used items or you are in the hospitality industry, you are at a higher risk due to the unknown history of the patrons or items coming into your business. A procedure should be in place to review all items prior to selling or donating to the public.

- Wash and dry items being used or sold, if able, the heat will kill all life stages.
- Visual inspections of furniture or items can uncover some but not all infestation. Look for fecal matter, blood stains, shed skins, or nymph/adult activity.
- Extermination or inspection efforts may be a part of your regular routine, and many options are available to be fine-tuned to your particular needs.

Lastly, businesses selling new items or services are not exempt from bedbug infestations but usually have a more controlled environment. Cleaning practices are among the most important, but education on what to look for is also wise.

For additional or individual information relating to your business, review the resources listed on the opposite side of this flyer or call the Health Department for guidance.