Bed Bugs

- Given their rapid proliferation without proper treatment, bed bugs have become a serious topic of concern for the apartment industry.
- Without the cooperation of residents, bedbug infestations can result in significant financial and administrative burdens for apartment owners and operators and their staffs, causing property loss, expense, and inconvenience.
- While bedbugs do not transmit disease, infestations have been known to cause consternation among those affected.\(^1\)
- Owners and managers of rental housing face a number of challenges associated with addressing bed bug infestations, including increased operational costs and resident non-compliance with inspection and treatment protocols.
- Policymakers should consider that contamination may spread to neighboring units if residents fail to comply.
- While pest management professionals offer cost-effective treatment methods, such as heat treatments, these costs can add up and put an unexpected strain on an owner or management firm’s operating budget, particularly small businesses.
- Given bed bugs are introduced to apartments by residents, any legislation concerning bedbugs must properly balance the responsibility for preventive action and eradication costs between residents and owners.

\(^1\) [https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/index.html)