Bed Bug Education:

**What to Do at a Client’s Home**

**Clothing to Wear at Work**

   Wear clothing that can be washed then dried in a hot dryer.

* Light coloured clothing makes it easier to see bed bugs. Choose pants without cuffs and shoes that are smooth with no trim that bed bugs can hide underneath.
* Be careful where you sit. The safest choice is a hard kitchen chair. Try not to sit on sofas and beds.
* **Equipment**
* Take in the least amount of stuff possible. Things like bags, tool kits, and coats are good hiding places for bed bugs.
* Put a barrier under your bag or other equipment to isolate it from the room. A white plastic bag works well as a barrier. Bed bugs are not likely to crawl on it because it’s smooth. Using a plastic bag that is white makes bed bugs easier to see. Leave whatever you use as a barrier under your bag for the client to throw out.
* **Going Home after Work**
* When you work in places that have, or may have bed bugs your biggest fear is bringing them home with you. Having a routine that will kill a bed bug that manages to hide on your equipment or clothing is a good way to stop this happening.
* Take off the clothes you were wearing in the bed bug infested building as soon as possible and before moving around in your home. A great place is a garage if you have one.
* If you don’t have a garage, take off any clothing that may be infested with bed bugs as close to the entrance door as possible. If you live in an apartment, the bathtub might be the best place. This is because bed bugs are easy to see on light surfaces and don’t like crawling on smooth slippery surfaces.
* Put all your clothing in a plastic bag.
* Seal the bag and take it directly to the washing machine.
* If your clothes are still clean, put the clothes in a dryer on the hottest setting for 30 minutes. It is the heat of the hot dryer that kills the bed bugs.
* Don’t take clothes off in your bedroom.
* **Working with Clients Living with a Bed Bug Infestation**

If your client lives in a home he or she (or their family) own they should call a pest control company for help to treat the bed bug infestation.

If you work in different homes during the day, be very careful not to transfer the bed bugs from one place to the other. If you know a place has bed bugs, visit it last. You can also wear a protective coverall so the bed bugs can’t crawl under a seam or in a pant cuff.