

Dear Parents,

There have been several reported cases of bedbugs in our county. Please be assured that the Adams County/Ohio Valley School District has been working closely with the Adams County Health Department to monitor the buildings as necessary. Parents can take an active part in helping eliminate this problem.

If you are currently dealing with bed bugs in your home, please do the following to prevent them from traveling into our buildings, and also to keep your student in school.

1. Do not send book bags, binders, or back packs to school.
2. Check all papers and books for bugs prior to sending to school.
3. Run the student's clothing to be worn that day, plus the coat and any outer wear, through the dryer on high heat for 15-20 minutes prior to dressing. Have the student get dressed in those clothes immediately upon removal of clothes from the dryer and just prior to walking out the door to leave.
4. If the student is not going to dress in the clothing immediately, the clothing should be placed in a zippered plastic bag.
5. Please do not send students to school in clothing that has been slept in the night before.
6. Vacuuming will remove some of the bed bugs, but the eggs are glued in place and can't be removed by vacuuming. When vacuuming, concentrate on mattress seams and around any tufts or buttons. Vacuum your mattresses, box springs, and carpets and dispose of the vacuumed contents in a sealed plastic bag.
7. Mattresses and box springs can be enclosed in a bed bug-proof zippered cover to kill the bugs inside. The cover should remain in place for more than one year because bed bugs can survive a long time without feeding.
8. To get rid of bed bugs, you must remove clutter such as pictures, books and clothing from the infested area so there are fewer places for the bugs to hide.
9. Understand that these measures must be done every day for as long as it takes to rid the home of the bed bugs, which can take up to a year or more.

The suggestions above can be effective in stopping the bugs from traveling into our buildings if done every day. Your efforts will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school nurse. Complete elimination of a bed bug infestation may be difficult without the services of a knowledgeable Pest Control Service.

For more information, check out the Ohio Department of Health website and search *bedbugs* <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/>



Reddish brown wingless insect



About the size of an apple seed