

Encountering Bed Bugs While Traveling

January 30, 2024 | 2:00 – 4:00 PM ET

BACKGROUND

EPA's Center for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) hosts an [ongoing series of webinars](#) featuring experts from across the country relaying educational information and practical strategies for establishing and improving integrated pest management programs. Also featured are smart, sensible, and sustainable strategies for addressing specific pest issues.

As more people travel, there are increasing instances of bed bug encounters domestically and abroad. This webinar will provide participants with comprehensive information on bed bugs including identification, ways they spread, inspections (when and how), preventing exposures, and control measures. Our experts will provide practical information to help you reduce the likelihood of bringing bed bugs home and what to do if you find they've followed you home. Enlisting the help of a pest management professional to deal with home infestations will also be discussed.

TARGET AUDIENCES

- Public
- Traveling professionals
- Travel destination managers
- Sanitarians
- School facility managers, nurses, administrators
- State / Local government building managers
- Pest management professionals

PROPOSED SPEAKERS

- [Marcia Anderson](#), Ph.D., U.S. EPA, Center for Integrated Pest Management
- [Donald Baumgartner](#), U.S. EPA Region 5
- [Richard Cooper](#), Ph.D., Owner/Urban Entomologist, Richard Cooper Consulting; rick@rcooperconsulting.net ; 609-947-4849
- Moderator: [Shanda Bennett](#), U.S. EPA, Center for Integrated Pest Management

ANNOUNCEMENT

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Registration Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3009192236941677661>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn how bed bugs are spread.
- What to do if you see bed bugs while traveling and who to contact
- Learn to identify the bed bug life stages and their habits.
- What you should do when entering temporary lodging
- Learn how to conduct a bed bug inspection.
 - Tools and techniques
 - Tell-tale signs
- Discover how to keep from transporting bed bugs to your home.
- Learn the IPM practices to use if you bring bed bugs home.
- Accessing EPA's online bed bug resources

OUTLINE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - MODERATOR (5 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Topic background
- Tips for participants
- Speaker introductions

ENCOUNTERING BED BUGS – MARCIA ANDERSON & DONALD BAUMGARTNER (45 MINUTES)

- How bed bugs are spread
- Precautions you should take.
- What to do when entering temporary lodging: hotel, bed-and-breakfast, dorm, relative's home
- Bed bug identification
- How to conduct a bed bug inspection
- Considerations and precautions to take when visiting friends and relatives.
- Signs of bed bugs
- Capturing the evidence
- Difficulty in attributing bites to bed bug
- How to keep from transporting bed bugs back home
- Monitoring

BED BUG CONTROLS: RICK COOPER (30 MINUTES)

- Vacuuming
- Encasements and liners
- Pesticides
- Pesticide resistance
- Other non-pesticidal tactics – heat treatment
- Engaging the help of a pest management professional

BED BUG RESOURCES - DONALD BAUMGARTNER (5 MINUTES)

- EPA online resources

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES) AND Q&A - MODERATOR (25 MINUTES)

- Announcements
 - Participation certificate process and webinar evaluation
- Question and answer session (25 minutes)
- Wrap-up