

## Bed Bug Structural Fumigation – Preparation Guidelines

1. Bring as few items as possible when leaving the residence, fumigate everything possible. Bed bugs are known hitch hikers and can harbor in suitcases, backpacks, boxes, clothing, bedding and pet cages. This is the most common way they are being introduced into buildings. They have even been known to infest small electronic devices.
2. For all fabric items that will not be fumigated, wash in hot water and dry on high heat in a dryer, no less than 140 degrees, before moving back into the residence. This includes any clothing, bedding, pillows, stuffed toys and pet bedding.
3. DO NOT use boxes, suitcases, back packs, gym bags or any similar items from the infested residence/dwelling, to pack the items that will remain with you. The items you take with you should be packed into cardboard boxes or plastic bags that have not been stored into the infested residence/dwelling. NOTE: Vikane gas fumigant does NOT penetrate plastic, metal or glass - anything packed into plastic bags needs to be opened prior to fumigation to insure gas permeates into container.
4. DO NOT fumigate anything that requires oxygen to breathe such as plants and animals.
5. Medicinal items need to be removed, especially if they are prescription medications. Items should be bagged into large, clear ziploc bags and inspected by BBFS/PCO technician PRIOR to leaving the subject property to insure no bed bugs inside.
6. You can fumigate all topical toiletries; however, toothpaste and mouthwash need to be removed as they can be ingested in their use.
7. All items that are open and digestible need to be fumigated and discarded **after** fumigation this is done to ensure that bed bugs are not spread by simply tossing out the items. This includes items in the refrigerator, freezer and pantry.
8. Baby mattresses or plastic encased mattresses that have been fumigated **CANNOT** be placed back into the home. If the encasement can be removed, we can fumigate the mattress and you can place it back into your home.
9. Pet Cages and bedding should be included in your fumigated items. Pet cages can contain small gaps in which bed bugs could harbor. Pet food needs to be removed. Your pet needs to be transported in a new pet carrier or placed in a bed bug free housing prior to the fumigation. The pets bedding should not accompany the pet unless it has been washed, dried and packed as previously described.
10. Be sure you have your pest control operator apply an intense, residual application of the residence prior to moving back in. The gas will kill all stages of the bed bug in the stored items, however it provides no residual and therefore no permanent control or continuous protection and the items fumigated could be subject to infestation. Please have the pest control operator treat the premise with a long lasting residual application.