

Preparing for a Flea or Tick Treatment

Prepared by Del Lawson of Modern Pest Control

As with all insects removing fleas from a home is very difficult. There are hundreds of products on the market and dozens of pest control companies that claim they have the quick, easy and cheap way to get rid of them.

The following is a list of things that must be completed by the home owner or tenant before a flea treatment can be performed and most importantly before the treatment will be effective.

Preparations to be completed by the resident:

- All pet bedding should be removed and washed in hot water and dried in the dryer.
- All clothes that may have contacted the infested area must be washed as well.
- The home should be neat and orderly as we will have to be able to get around.
- Anything that can be washed in a washing machine should be washed.
- All hard surface floor areas must be swept or vacuumed.
- All cracks and crevices, where the floor and wall meet (Floor Wall Junction) should be vacuumed so as to remove live adult fleas and eggs.
- All carpeted areas must be vacuumed prior to the day of service. This helps the napp of the carpet stand up to accept treatment more readily.

What to expect the day of the treatment:

- On the day of the treatment the technician will first come into the home and do a visual assessment.
- He will then begin treating the home

What to expect after the treatment:

- Bed bugs are not removed from an apartment over night. It will take time for the treatment to work.
- Re-inspections and treatments may be necessary.

- You should continue to wash all clothes and bedding as often as possible to facilitate killing of all bed bug larvae and eggs that may be deposited.
- The second treatment will be scheduled 14-21 days after the first one.
- In the first few days after the treatment the bed bug activity will appear to increase. This is just the insects that are hidden during the treatment coming out due to agitation from the treatment.

These steps are not mere suggestions but are necessary to get rid of the problem. Remember these problems take time to get under control and help from you the tenant is of the utmost importance. If we do not cooperate and work together the problem may continue or get worse.