

Preparing For Heat Treatment

In order to get ready for this treatment please do the following things prior to our arrival time:

1. Put the items listed below into one or more BASKETS (label the BASKET “Do Not Heat”) and leave them by the door. Don’t take them out of the house; we’ll inspect them, determine if any treatment needs to be done, and make sure they are free of bed bugs at the end of our treatment. Except for the items listed in item 2 below, leave everything in the home

(Owner/resident check off when complete)

- All aerosols and pressurized cans, including hairspray, spray-on deodorants, bug sprays, spray paints, asthma inhalers, and aerosol cleaning products
- Chocolate, other food products, and candy that may melt at temperatures that may exceed 100°F (foods in the refrigerator can be left in the refrigerator)
- Any ammunition for rifles, guns, or CO2 cartridges for pellet and/or paintball guns.
- All medicines (medicines that are normally kept in the refrigerator can be left there)
- Candles, wax figurines, crayons, and oil paintings
- Musical instruments that might be damaged by heat, such as guitars
- All flammable materials, including butane lighters, lamp fuel, food warmer fuel, solvents, etc.
- All house plants that will be sensitive to high temperatures should be placed outside. (Walker Pest Management will not be responsible for damaged house plants if left in the home.)

2. With the exception of the items listed in section 1, all other items can be left inside the home during treatment. Please note that this treatment can cause vinyl floor tiles to curl. Floors that are one sheet of vinyl or hard, VCT tile should not be affected. If you think your floor or wall coverings may be susceptible, please get clarification from Walker Pest Management before proceeding. Walker Pest Management will not be responsible for damage to these materials during heat treatment.

3. Place linens, towels, folded clothing, folded blankets, Afghans, etc. loosely into open laundry baskets so that we can distribute heat to all portions of these articles. **Do not place clothing, linens, or folded clothing into plastic bags.**

4. As much as possible, arrange clothing in closets in such a way that there is some space between articles of clothing hanging from rods or lying on shelves. This will help heat to be evenly distributed. **CLOSETS AND OTHER STORAGE AREAS CANNOT BE TIGHTLY PACKED WITH ITEMS!!! Please unpack these items from closet and place loosely in baskets as stated in section 3 above.**

5. Clothing in drawers can be left in the drawers, but if articles are densely packed, remove them and place them loosely in open laundry baskets as in No.3.

6. Remove any items from under beds.

7. **Vacuum all floor areas, under beds, in closets, etc. and dispose of vacuum bag or container immediately in exterior trash can.**

8. Gather loose papers and articles that would be blown about by a stiff wind, and put them in baskets (we’re going to use powerful fans to distribute hot air, and we don’t want to mess things up.)

9. Take down wall-mounted knickknack shelves, wall hangings, small pictures and any wall-mounted articles that might be damaged if someone brushes against them (we will be moving through the area with large, heavy equipment, and we don’t want to damage these things)

10. If a waterbed is present, drain it. If an air bed (Select Comfort or other brand) is present, deflate the air bladders.

11. If your home has a piano, you will need to arrange to place it outside of the heated area to prevent damage to the interior components. The Walker technicians can assist, but will not be responsible for moving the piano.

12. If you have a fire sprinkler system and/or fire alarm system, these should be turned off and drained according to the recommendations of your fire system provider. Walker Pest will not be responsible for sprinkler systems that fail or turn on during or after heat treatment. Please check with a sprinkler system specialist to determine what steps will be necessary to protect your system during and after our heat treatment for bed bugs. Likewise WPM will not be responsible for fire alarms that are triggered due to high temperatures during treatment. Please contact your alarm system provider to determine what the best solution will be to avoid false alarms during treatment.

After Heat Treatment:

Do not plan to return to your home for at least 9 hours from the time our technicians arrive. Your house may still be warm when you return, and you may notice that some clothing, linens, blankets, sofa cushions, etc. are not exactly the way you left them. That’s because we moved things around in order to get even distribution of heat. Do not plug in or turn on electronics for 24 hrs. Open windows and use fans or the air conditioning as needed, and move your items back where they belong. Bed bugs are a serious and challenging pest, and we thank you for your cooperation!