

August 29, 2014

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 14-07
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
ALL OUTREACH, ADMISSIONS, AND CTS CONTRACTORS

FROM: LENITA JACOBS-SIMMONS
Acting National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Prevention and Mitigation of Bed Bugs, Reminder

1. Purpose. To remind the Job Corps community to implement procedures for prevention and mitigation of bed bug infestation at Job Corps centers.
2. Background. Bed bugs continue to present a problem in our communities, as well as in Job Corps facilities. Recently, several Job Corps centers have experienced bed bug infestations, which have resulted in costly extermination plans, the displacement of students in dormitories, disruption of normal activities, and in some cases, scheduling of non-training days.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), bed bugs are public health pests. Unlike other public health pests such as mites, ticks, fleas and cockroaches, bed bugs are not known to carry or spread disease.

Reaction to bed bug bites can vary from person to person. Some individuals will have no reaction, while others may experience a small bite mark or in rare cases, anaphylaxis. Scratching bed bug bites can lead to secondary infections including impetigo, ecthyma, and lymphangitis when broken skin is exposed to one of two types of bacteria, *streptococcus* or *staphylococcus*.

People living in bed bug infested homes often experience mental health issues, such as anxiety and insomnia. (For additional details about the EPA and CDC joint statement on bed bugs, refer to http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/Publications/Bed_Bugs_CDC-EPA_Statement.htm.)

3. Action. In accordance with Job Corps Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) Chapter 5, Section 5.17, "Food Handling and Storage, Pest Control, Unsanitary Conditions, and Water Treatment," centers shall take appropriate action to control insects, including bed bugs, and ensure that pesticides are applied by licensed professional pest control contractors. Job

Corps centers are encouraged to follow the bed bug prevention and mitigation procedures described in Job Corps Information Notice No. 12-05, issued July 20, 2012.

The following resources have been included to assist centers with effective mitigation of bed bugs:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Pesticides: Controlling Pests, “Bed Bug Infestations,” <http://www2.epa.gov/bedbugs/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parasites- Bed Bugs, <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html>
- Pest World.org, “Tips for Bed Bugs in Universities & Schools,” <http://www.pestworld.org/all-things-bed-bugs/bed-bug-prevention/tips-for-college-students/>

Addressees are to ensure this Information Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

5. Inquiries. Direct all inquiries to Heather Edmonds at (202) 693-3774 or edmonds.heather@dol.gov.