

Extermination Services, Inc.

IN THIS ISSUE

Rodent Guard.....	Front Page
Safety Corner.....	Front Page
Special Thank You.....	Front Page
Helpful Hints.....	2
Fall Invaders.....	2
Student Sleeps Tight, Bed Bugs....	3
Bed Bug Tips in Hotels.....	3

Rodent guard



Mice and rats are a serious pest problem for many people, causing significant damage and presenting potential disease and health risks. While rodent activity is more pronounced in the cold months, rodents are active all year round, and a few mice in your house in July can turn into dozens by January. That's why Pro Tech Pest Control offers Rodent Guard as an add-on service for our semiannual customers.



blocking pests from getting in, and setting tamper resistant bait stations and traps to remove the rodents already present. We offer a six-month warranty on our work and special pricing is available for additional clean out services.

Preventive and maintenance care via Rodent Guard can save you 40-60% off the normal cost of

rodent clean out services, so an ounce of prevention really is worth a pound of cure. Call us for more information and to schedule an appointment.



The Rodent Guard service is a combined program of services designed to not only remove rodents already in the home, but prevent them from coming back. The service includes inspecting your home for rodent infestation,

Safety Corner

A residential fire occurs every 78 seconds, and most of these occur during the winter months. Remember to watch for potential fire hazards at home and work, such as frayed electrical cords, space heaters near draperies, bedding, or other flammable items, lint build-up in clothes dryers and ducting, children playing with matches and smoking in bed.

Fires are also started by unattended Christmas tree lights

on dry trees, candles and open fireplaces. Also, a certain number of fires of "unknown origin" are started by mice gnawing on wires or mice building nests of flammable materials near heat sources. Inspect for these hazards carefully and keep your home and family safe through the winter months.



Special thank you

This spring and summer were tough for Protech with the constant rain in the early spring, and some unforeseen circumstances beyond our control. We would like to thank those customers who had to wait for their service to be performed while the weather cleared, as well as those who made the extra effort in times of schedule conflicts. It's customers like you who make us glad to be in business.



Thanks,
**The Pro
Tech Team.**



Helpful Hints:

Pest infestations occur because of favorable habitats existing in and close to your home. Eliminating these favorable habitats can prevent most common infestations and save you a lot of trouble and money. Here are a few helpful hints to make your home less attractive to pests.

- 1 Store firewood off the ground and away from the structure. Firewood is a frequent home for carpenter ants, termites, mice, spiders and snakes. Carpenter ants will forage up to 100 yards away from their nests for food, so further is always better.
- 2 Trim all trees and bushes away from the house to prevent contact with the structure. This prevents insects from bypassing the foundation treatment by using the vegetation as a bridge.
- 3 Avoid organic mulches around the foundation of the home and remove dead stumps and other rotting matter from within 50 feet of the home.
- 4 Correct any moisture problems in the house such as leaky roofs, chimney flashing, plumbing leaks, blocked gutters and poorly ventilated attics. Insects love moist wood.
- 5 Spiders are drawn to locations that offer good hunting for other insects, by switching to yellow insect lights and discouraging insects in and around your house, it becomes a less inviting environment for spiders.
- 6 By regularly removing spider webs from your house, basement and attic, you make it difficult for spiders to feed themselves and prevent reproduction.
- 7 Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left out of doors. Drainage holes that are located on the sides collect enough water for mosquitoes to breed in.
- 8 Use landscaping to eliminate standing water that collects on your property. Mosquitoes will develop in any puddle that lasts more than 4 days.



Fall Invaders

Whether it's EEK!!, or UGH!!, or YUCK!!!, most of us have a natural revulsion for mice and rats. These pests appear unexpectedly indoors throughout the year. But it's during the fall, as temperatures start to cool and the food outdoors is harder to find, that the number of invading mice and rats increases dramatically.

Mice indoors tend to be omnivorous, eating most anything that is available, although cereals, crumbs and grains are among their favorite foods.

Keep in mind that mice and rats multiply faster when they have plenty of food, water, and shelter. For instance, mice give birth to from 2-13 young every 30-50 days. If they have everything they need, the litters are large and close together. Their numbers increase rapidly when this happens. So it's important to eliminate the food, water, and shelter available to mice and rats.

If you need advice on what you can do to reduce and eliminate these pests, please call us.



Student sleeps tight, away from bedbugs

Worcester woman files suit over bites

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK— A college student filed a lawsuit yesterday saying her living space was infested with bedbugs and the bites caused her to suffer asthma attacks.

Michelle Hopkins, 21, of Worcester, a graduate of Holy Name Central Catholic High School, said she had to go to emergency rooms three times in the past two weeks because of the bedbug assault

suffered this month at her room at the New Yorker Hotel in midtown Manhattan.

Ms. Hopkins, a Fordham University senior, was living in a room on one of four floors leased by Educational Housing Services Inc., a firm that leases and adapts living space for student use.

Educational Housing, the New Yorker Hotel Management Co. Inc.; Ramada Worldwide Inc., which has a booking franchise relationship with the hotel; and the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of

World Christianity (the Unification Church), owners of the hotel, are named as defendants in Ms. Hopkins' lawsuit. Fordham is not named.

Greg Scott, president of Educational Housing, said he had not seen the lawsuit but "the minute we learned of the bedbugs, we relocated her and her roommate."

Mr. Scott, whose company houses students from several city colleges, said the company cleaned Ms. Hopkins' clothes, removed all

continued on page 4

Bed bug tips in hotels

Bed-bugs are a growing problem in the United States, especially in urban hotels and airport hotels. Before booking a hotel room, you may want to read user reviews of the particular hotel and location. Bedbugs are among the most frequent problems reported online. Bear in mind that a report about one hotel does not mean the issue wasn't isolated to one room, or that hotel management hasn't since taken steps to rectify the infestation.

Still concerned? When traveling you may want to check your bed for telltale signs of bedbugs. This was a common practice years ago. Before jumping into bed, here are a few spot check tips:

- Peel back the bed sheets and check the mattress, running your fingers along the upper and lower seams. Make sure to check the mattress tag, bed bugs often hide there.
- Experts recommend removing and examining the headboard if possible. Check for tiny black spots (excrement) that are smaller than poppy seeds. You may also see translucent light brown skins or, in the case of an active infestation – live bugs.
- Check the bedside table. Look for signs of bed bugs in the drawers and along the wall on the side of the bed that is less likely to be disturbed by cleaning staff and guests.
- You may want to elevate suitcases and keep them off the floor, like on a luggage stand.
- If you see powder in the drawers or on the headboard, it is likely that the room has already been treated for bed bugs by an exterminator.
- If bed bugs are detected, travelers should request another room. Be sure to inform hotel management.
- Just moving to a different room may not be the final answer. You should repeat the thorough inspection of any new or different room you are offered.
- When you pack to leave, inspect your luggage carefully first, and inspect every item as you pack to help detect any bugs or their signs. Laundering most cloth items with typical hot water and detergent followed by drying on low heat for at least 20 minutes (or standard dry cleaning) should kill all bed bugs in or on such items. Sealing freshly-laundered items inside a plastic bag should help keep any more bed bugs from getting in those items later to hide (and be carried back with you).

Student Sleeps Tight –

continued from page 3

the furniture and carpeting, exterminated the room, and offered her a refund.

“We believe we reacted properly to her problem,” Mr. Scott said. “This is her third year with us, and we’re determined to make her happy.”

Kevin Smith, general manager of the 800-room hotel, said bedbugs are “not endemic to any hotel; people bring them in, and all you can do is deal with them once you have them.”

Mr. Smith said the student housing is separate from the rest of the New Yorker guest rooms and no bedbug problems have been reported in the hotel proper.

Ms. Hopkins’ lawyer, Alan Schnurman, said the communications major had not suffered an asthma attack in four years, but she has had three in the past two weeks, set off by bedbug bites “from her head to her toe.”

Mr. Schnurman, who showed photos of Ms. Hopkins with red bug bites over her body, said that Fordham

has found Ms. Hopkins a new living space and they wanted her to leave the New Yorker. Since the latest attack, Ms. Hopkins had been living in a room two floors below the infested room, and she has been taking anti-allergy medicines.

The lawsuit asks unspecified money damages.

Reprinted from
The Worcester Telegram and Gazette

Friday, September 21, 2007

