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BED BUG HEAT TREATMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

Thermal remediation is a proven non-chemical, environmentally friendly method of treating bed bugs. Research has shown that all life stages (adults, nymphs, and eggs) die within minutes at a temperature of 122 degrees F. During the thermal remediation process, temperatures in your home will range from 120 degrees – 140 degrees F. These are lethal temperatures to bed bug populations but not hot enough to damage most items (see below).

Successful heat remediation is a partnership between the occupant and Superior Pest Solutions. Our goal is to eliminate the bed bug and its eggs. The goal is more likely to be reached if you are able to help in the preparation. The preparation checklist below *MUST* be followed in order to properly eliminate the presence of bed bugs and protect personal items.

Items to be removed from the treatment areas:

- **All** pets including fish in aquariums
- All houseplants
- Fresh foods (fruits, vegetables, etc) & foods that melt (chocolate, candy, etc)
- Prescription medication & over the counter drugs should be placed in the fridge (take any that you may need with you)
- Make-up
- Wax based items (candles, crayons, wax figurines/fruit, etc)
- Remove alcoholic beverages or place them in the fridge
- All firearms, ammo, gunpowder, fireworks
- Items containing alcohol such as rubbing alcohol, nail polish remover, etc
- All batteries
- All aerosol products (spray cans, fire extinguishers, etc)
- All compressed gasses (oxygen bottles, etc)
- All flammables (lighters, lamp fuel, solvents, matches, etc)
- Remove oils (cooking oil, mineral oil, etc). The oil may expand under heat & leak out of the container.
- Remove money and valuables
- Remove all cassette tapes, video tapes, records, photo albums & negatives
- Remove all plasma screen TVs
- The crew will need to inspect and remove items from closets, drawers, and storage. If there is anything that you do not want the crew to see or handle, please remove it.
- Remove clutter from closets, drawers & all around the house/apartment/condo.
- All blinds/shades must be removed from the windows – heat will make them droop/warp.

As a rule of thumb, any item that would be damaged or melt if left on the dashboard of a closed car should be removed from the premises. Some of the smaller items may be stored in the fridge during the treatment.

Pictures/paintings & other wall mounted items will be taken off the walls. They will not be rehung because temperatures will be too hot during take down. Please let the crew know about any oil paintings.

Clothing & Bedding

- All beds must be stripped of all bedding, including bed skirts & mattress covers/encasements
- The bed bug will seek shelter on & within clothing/bedding. To avoid reintroducing bed bugs, any clothing/bedding removed from the space before thermal remediation must be treated before being returned to the treated areas.
- Washing using the hottest water cycle & drying using the hottest dryer setting will treat most of the clothing & bedding.
- Avoid contaminating the freshly washed clothing; do not return the clean clothing to the container (bag, basket, etc) it was transported in unless that container was also treated.
- Clothing left in the heated space **MUST** be packed loosely. Tightly packed clothing will prevent lethal temperatures from reaching all items. **Do not place clothing in plastic bags!**
- Drawers should be no more than half full. It may also be necessary to remove the drawers from dressers to assist with the air movement.
- Closets should be no more than half full. Clothing on hangers may be left in the closet if the space between the items is large enough to allow the heated air to circulate. Arrange hanging items to open up air space between them.
- Larger fabric items such as linens, towels, blankets, etc: place these items in open weave baskets & pack items loosely to allow air circulation. **Do not pack in plastic bags!**

Electronics

- Electronics are a hiding place for bed bugs. Do not remove electronics from areas being treated (other than plasma TVs as previously stated).
- Switch all electronics to the off position & disconnect them by unplugging from the wall outlet.
- **All outlet covers/switch plates must be removed.**

Papers, Smaller Items, ETC

- A thermal remediation treatment requires moving large amounts of air to be successful. All items that can be blown around & possibly damaged need to be protected/removed.
- Loose papers need to be gathered & boxed.
- Glass items/knick knacks will need to be secured/removed. Do not leave breakable items on shelves or other areas where damage could happen.

Water Beds/Air Beds

- Water beds will need to be drained. If the water bed is not drained, it will prevent the frame from reaching proper temperature.
- Air beds need to be partially deflated to avoid damage.
- Select comfort beds with an electronic pump need to be unplugged from the wall.

Returning to Your Home

- The temperature will be elevated when you return. Higher temperatures are the result of the thermal remediation process & a cool down period will be needed.
- Open windows & turn on fans & air conditioning to aid in cooling.
- During the heat remediation, some of your things may have been shifted by our heat team in order to get an even heat distribution. They may not have been returned where they were before the heat remediation.

Property must be vacated during treatment and for at least 1 hour after treatment is complete.

Customer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____