



Dear YMCA Camp Kern Guests,

At Camp Kern we have thousands of visitors a year, all of whom are most welcome. Unfortunately, and inadvertently, on rare occasion some guests bring with them a most unwelcome creature. Yes, bed bugs. We pride ourselves on the open and proactive steps we take to eliminate this nuisance.

Here at Camp Kern all cabins and dorms are checked routinely for bugs of all sorts. Cabins are sprayed and treated regularly with a chemical spray that kills bed bugs in any state, and prevents them from laying eggs. Additionally, if any bugs are located or suspected, we immediately super heat the cabin and spray again. Warren county Health Department also inspects camp and uses Kern as an example of how to deal with bed bugs.

How you can help prevent the spread of bed bugs is by taking the following steps. When your child returns home immediately:

- Take the clothes and bedding directly to the washer and dryer (use hot water and a high dryer heat).
- Place the luggage in black trash bags and place in the sun for a day or two, or steam clean your luggage. (Better yet, use washable duffel bags for luggage rather than suitcases.)
- Make sure any toiletry bags are also treated.
- If you are experiencing a bed bug problem at your home, please pack your child's clothes straight from your dryer into a cleaned duffel bag and put it directly into your car.

Thank you for helping us to continue to be a leader in dealing with this problem. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dave Moran, Environmental Education
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