



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Dear Parents,

In order to maintain excellent programming and lodging facilities, YMCA Camp Campbell Gard adheres to a strict bedbug prevention policy to minimize any bedbug incursion at camp. Besides the cleaning and inspection processes completed by our staff, we also contract with a licensed exterminator who carries out regular inspections. Our research has shown that an aggressive, proactive approach is the best method of prevention.

For this reason, we do the following things to help ensure a clean facility;

- Prior to your arrival, the cabins are cleaned and inspected. Besides our cleaning process, a licensed exterminator inspects regularly.
- We require that ALL campers pack clothing/bedding items in MESH LAUNDRY BAGS/SOFT DUFFLE BAGS when coming to camp and before any camper places items in cabins - items are heated to help ensure that any bedbugs brought into camp are eliminated.
- Personal items such as toiletries, as well as any/all boots, shoes, flip-flops, etc. should be packed in zip lock bags and labeled, separate from the mesh bags.

Upon return to your home, you can further prevent the spread of this nuisance by taking some of the following steps before taking your luggage into your house;

- Take your clothing/bedding directly from your vehicle to the washer and dryer (Hot water and a cycle in the dryer will reach the necessary heat level required to eliminate insects).
- Place your clothing/bedding in a black trash bag and place in the sun for a day or two and/or steam clean your items.

From our discussions with licensed professionals and others who are dealing with bedbugs, we believe heat is the best way to ensure bedbug elimination. While we prefer to limit chemical use, we realize there is a time and place for chemicals and we do utilize Steri-Fab on the mattresses if necessary. We know these are not cure-all steps but we want to be as proactive as possible with our prevention.

As much as they are a nuisance, bedbugs have not been shown to transmit disease according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Thank you so much for helping us in this endeavor as we continue to be a leader in dealing with this regional problem. We look forward to serving you again in the future and thank you for your cooperation and patronage.

Sincerely,

Pete Fasano, Executive Director

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The Y: We're for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

Camp Will Change Your Life If You Let It.™

