

# **Hamilton Community Bed Bug Strategy**

Update to Emergency & Community Services Committee  
Report CES14013(b)



# Project Goals

- Minimize movement of bed bugs
- Identify and reduce significant infestations
- Create living, work and community spaces that are less receptive to bed bug infestations

A poster with a dark red background. At the top center is a white oval containing three red bed bugs. Below the bugs, the text "BED BUGS" is written in large, bold, black capital letters, followed by "LOVE EVERYONE" in smaller, bold, black capital letters. A small red heart is positioned below the text. The poster includes a message about bed bugs, a list of resources for more information, and the Hamilton logo and contact information.

Bed bugs can happen to anyone, anywhere at any time.  
If you see signs of bed bugs, tell your landlord immediately.

**For more information about:**

- What bed bugs look like
- Where to look for bed bugs
- How to prevent bed bugs from entering your home
- How to remove bed bugs from your home

Visit: [Hamilton.ca/bedbugs](http://Hamilton.ca/bedbugs)  
or call 905.546.2489



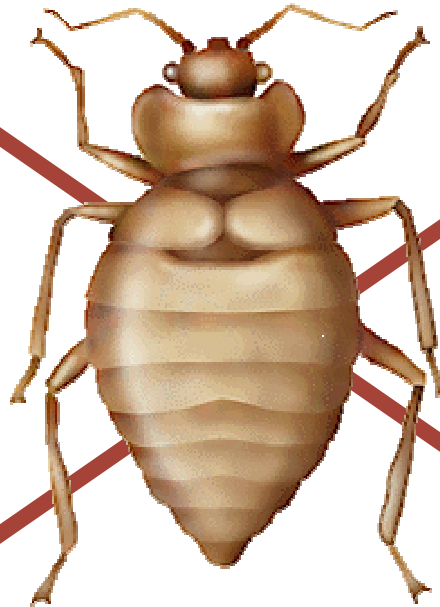
Hamilton

### Direct Assistance

- 48 residents received assistance with bed bug preparation
- 66 residents received consultation / mediation assistance
- 90% of those directly assisted report significant improvement

### Education & Prevention

- 13 Bed Bug Fact Sheets
- 6 self help videos online
- Print and electronic media advertising
- 14,000 webpage visits/year
- 8000 bulk waste bags distributed this year



### Workplace Training & Policy

- Resource kit developed including workplace precaution videos
- 5 workplace consultations and policy workshops completed
- 60 organizations scheduled for workshop

### IPM Training

- 300+ property mgt. staff trained in IPM
- Developed No Shame / No Blame policy
- Tenant education project underway with 10,000 apartment units targeted.
- Evaluation of IPM approach including tenant education is underway

# Direct Assistance

- Direct preparation assistance
- Mediation with landlords
- Education



# Public Education and Prevention

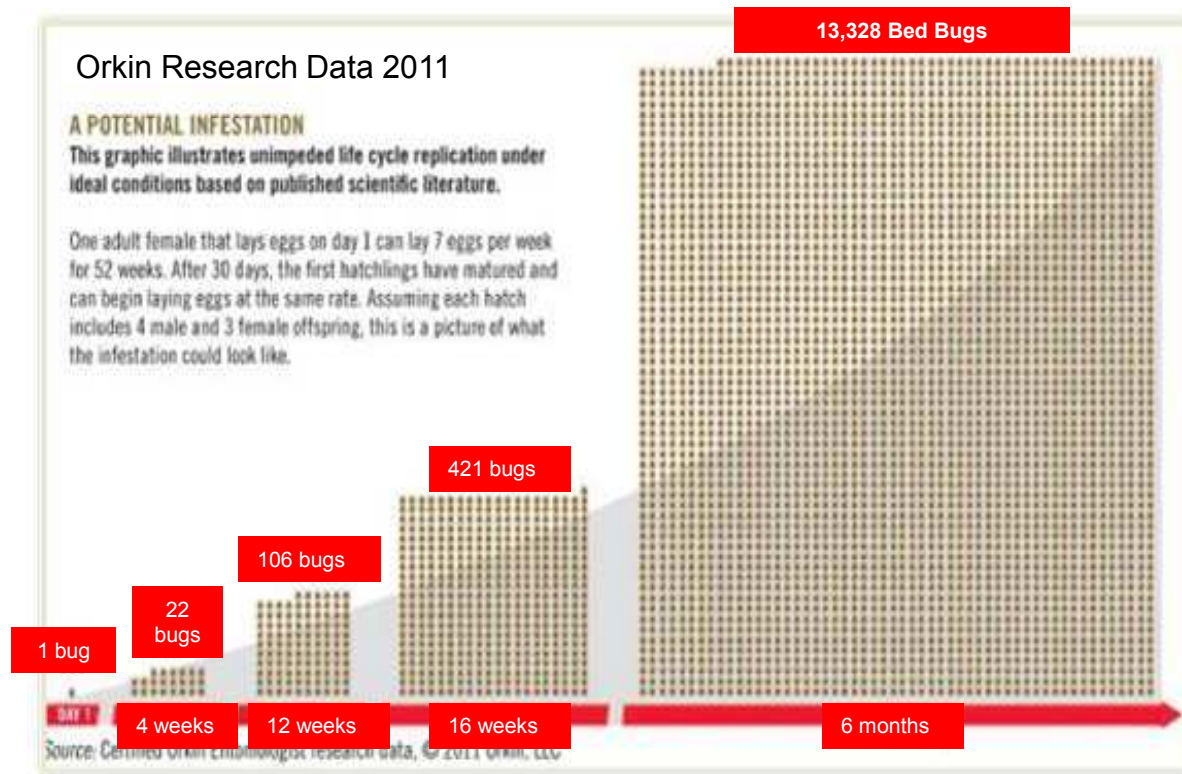
- Overcoming Stigma
- Provide Useful Information and Resources



# Integrated Pest Management

*"It's not about saving money.*

*It's about saving buildings."*



# Challenges and Next Steps

- Reaching the next tier of landlords
- Addressing stigma to encourage earlier reporting
- Encouraging pest control companies to follow best practice IPM
- Sustaining momentum after project

