

**Tarpon Springs Housing Authority**

500 S. Walton Ave  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Phone: (727) 937-4411  
TDD: (800) 955-8771  
Fax: (727) 279-2814

**TarponSpringsHousing.com**



**Cops 'N Kids  
Summer Camp**

Open Monday through Friday  
7:30am to 6:00pm

**FREE**

to Income Eligible Participants  
Ages 9 to 14

- \* Field-trips \* Group Games \* Arts and Crafts \*
- \* Science \* Team Building \* Life Skills \*
- \* Computer Learning \*

*Lunch & Snacks Provided!*

**CONTACT:**

Brian C. Schroeder  
Program Director  
727-366-7495

~OR~

555 E. Harrison St.  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689  
(727) 934-4800



**800 LINCOLN AVENUE**

3 Bedroom/1 Bath House  
Carport & Laundry Washer/Dryer Hookup  
Section 8 Vouchers Accepted  
Affordable Rent  
Contact: Kim @ 727-937-4411



*Did You  
Know...*

That removing shopping carts from a retail store's property is against the law?

**CHAPTER 812 - THEFT, ROBBERY, AND RELATED CRIMES**

812.015, (d) "Retail theft" means the taking possession of or carrying away of merchandise, property, money, or negotiable documents; altering or removing a label, universal product code, or price tag; transferring merchandise from one container to another; or removing a shopping cart, with intent to deprive the merchant of possession, use, benefit, or full retail value.



**Summer Newsletter**

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**Tips for Preventing Mold & Mildew**

- Do not block or cover any heating, ventilation, or air conditioning ducts.
- Whenever possible, maintain a temperature in your home around the low to mid 70's in the air conditioning season and the high 60's to low 70's Fahrenheit during the heating season.
- To allow an exchange of air and permit sunlight to enter your home, air out your home when weather is warm and humidity is low. Run the fan on your furnace to help circulate fresh air.
- In damp, humid, or rainy weather, keep windows and doors closed.
- Clean and dust your home on a regular basis.
- Regular vacuuming and mopping removes household dirt and debris that contribute to mold growth.
- Periodically clean and dry the walls and floors around the sink, bathtub, shower, toilet, windows, and doors using a common household disinfecting cleaner. On a regular basis, wipe down and dry areas where moisture sometimes accumulates, such as countertops, windows, and windowsills.
- Ensure that the bathroom is well ventilated when bathing or showering to allow good air flow.
- Use the exhaust fan in your kitchen when cooking and allow the fan to run until all excess moisture has been vented from the kitchen.
- Do not overfill closets or storage areas. Overcrowding restricts airflow.

**TRASH**

Please place trash in sealed bags and place trash cans at curbside on trash day for pickup.

It is also important that emptied trash cans are removed promptly from curbside and placed at the rear of each unit.

**Fire Safety - Ingress/Egress**

You may have received a notice regarding an Ingress/Egress Violation, and are wondering what this means.

The terms "ingress" and "egress" are the legal definitions pertaining to the entering and leaving of a piece of real estate property.

In order to avoid violations such as these, you must keep furniture and other miscellaneous personal items completely clear of all doors and windows that can be used for entering or exiting your unit. Even a blockage of an inch or two can be considered a violation, and a fire hazard.



The staff at Tarpon Springs Housing Authority wants you and your family to be safe in the event of an emergency! Please keep your doors and windows clear, so if you or a family member find that your front or back door is blocked or unsafe, you will be able to leave through the closest window!

**ILLEGAL TRASH DUMPING**

Please refrain from illegal trash dumping on TSHA premises and feel free to report incidents that occur.

If you have furniture items that need to be picked up, please contact the TSHA office or the City of Tarpon Springs for pricing.

**Important Numbers**

- TS Police Dept.....938-2849
- TS Fire Dept.....938-3737
- TS Post Office.....937-7189
- TS Library.....943-4922
- TS City Utilities.....942-5609
- TS Housing Authority (TSHA)...937-4411
- TSHA After Hours Emergencies 786-0102
- Duke Energy.....443-2641
- Clearwater Gas.....562-4600
- CAP Center.....934-5881
- Shepherd Center.....939-1400
- Cops 'n Kids.....934-4800
- Pinellas Opportunity Council . 937-9393

## What *NOT* to Flush or Pour Down Drains

The primary function of the sewer system is to convey human wastes and water. The following products should never be flushed or poured down drains:



- Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)
- Disposable wipes, rags, and other rubbish
- Pharmaceuticals (medications)
- Household hazardous wastes: paints, solvents, insecticides, herbicides, etc.

There are a few easy steps that you can take:

- ⇒ Never pour kitchen greases or oils down the drain - even if you think you are washing it down with hot water.
- ⇒ Pour cooled grease into a can and throw it in the trash.
- ⇒ Try to absorb the grease. For small amounts in a pan, let the grease congeal and wipe with paper towels.
- ⇒ Place the grease in a strong container (tin can, coffee can or bottle) and freeze until solid.
- ⇒ Scrape grease and food scraps into the trash can.
- ⇒ Put baskets/strainers in sinks to catch food scraps and toss into the trash.
- ⇒ Pretty much all other solids except for human wastes and toilet tissue should be thrown in the trash can and not in the toilet.
- ⇒ Don't flush wipes, paper towels, facial tissues, paper napkins, wrappers, gloves, condoms, underclothes, elastics, plastic bags, wrappers, bottles, cotton-tips, cotton balls, tampons, cigarette filters, toys, cans, sticks, pebbles, sand, cat litter, stockings and rags down the toilet.
- ⇒ Do not flush pharmaceuticals down the toilet or drain unless the label or accompanying patient information specifically instructs you to do so.



## The Scoop on Poop

Part of being a responsible dog owner is picking up your dog's poop. I know this sounds disgusting and surely that poop is bio-degradable. Actually, it's not.

Dog poop can transmit disease to other dogs and to humans (including your children). One ounce of dog feces contains about 23 million microorganisms of bacteria. Leaving it on the ground can spread Salmonella, E. coli, roundworms, hookworms and more to children & adults who share the grass—or sidewalks or dirt....you get the picture.

Unscopied dog poop washes off into waterways. Approximately 95% of the fecal coliform found in urban stormwater was nonhuman in origin. Stormwater runoff may become your drinking water.

Pinellas County's 185,000 dogs generate between 31 and 69 tons of poop per day. Roughly 40% of Americans do not pick up their dog's feces. In Pinellas this means 12 - 28 tons of poop per day is left unscopied.

Dog waste is raw sewage, Scoop it, bag it and place it in the trash. Not only is it the right thing to do, it is a tenant responsibility as explained in your lease.



## Don't Let the Bed Bugs Bite...

You cannot just "get" bed bugs. They have to be brought into your home. So what is your first clue that you have brought bed bugs home? Most people become suspicious of a bed bug infestation when they find unexplained bites on their bodies. Most commonly a person will go to bed feeling fine but wake up in the morning with itching bites.

While bites might suggest bed bugs, they are not a good method for diagnosing a bed bug infestation. This is because bite reactions vary so much from person to person. For instance, a person who has been bitten while out of their home may not react for several days, and may not notice the bites immediately.

These bites do not mean the home is infested. Alternatively, a person may not react to bed bug bites at all. This can allow an infestation to get started in their home and remain unnoticed until the bed bug population increases so much that bed bugs start to be seen.

Because bites are an unreliable indicator of an infestation (they may not be bed bug bites at all), it is very important to be familiar with the other signs that bed bugs leave behind to detect a real infestation. By looking for specific bed bug evidence, the infestation can be identified early before the population becomes difficult to control.

### WHAT TO LOOK FOR

It is very important to know what bed bugs look like. The adults can easily be seen with the naked eye. Adult bed bugs are reddish brown in color, wingless, and are about the size of an apple seed. Immature bed bugs (nymphs) can also be seen with the naked eye but they are smaller than adults, and translucent whitish-yellow in color. Bed bug eggs are tiny, about the size of the head of a pin. The eggs are a pearl-white color and have obvious eyespots if they are older than 5 days.

Look for bed bugs in all their life stages: eggs, nymphs and adults. Also look for cast skins and blood spots. But note: blood spots, hatched eggs, and cast skins may be from an infestation that's been dealt with already. Live bed bugs

are the only confirming evidence. Use a flashlight—even if the area is well lit—and work systematically. A magnifying glass will help you zoom in on hard to see spots. Start with one corner of the mattress and work around the piping, down the sides, and underneath. Do the same with the box spring. If you own the bed, slowly remove the dust cover (ticking) on the bottom of the box spring and seal in a trash bag. Next, inspect the bed frame. If you can take it apart, do so. Bed bugs could be hiding in the joints.

No bed bugs yet? Work out from the bed in a systematic way (clockwise or counter-clockwise) to the walls of the room. Look in the pleats of curtains, beneath loose pieces of wallpaper near the bed, the corners and drawers of desks and dressers, within spaces of wicker furniture, behind doors, windows, and baseboard trim, and in laundry or other items on the floor or around the room such as cardboard boxes. Inspect everything. Any crack, crevice, or joint a credit card edge could fit in could hide adult bed bugs. This routine gives you a systematic approach and increases the chance you'll find evidence early on.

### PREVENTING BED BUGS

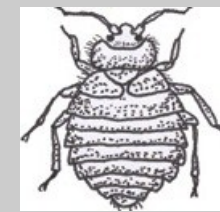
Bed bugs are very successful hitchhikers, moving from an infested site to furniture, bedding, baggage, boxes, and clothing. Although they typically feed on blood every five to ten days, bed bugs can be quite resilient; they are capable of surviving several months to a year without feeding.

A few simple precautions can help prevent bed bug infestation in your home:

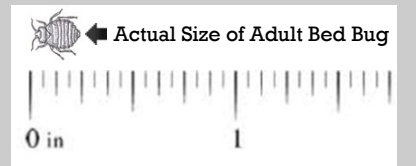
- Never take any furniture from a dumpster no matter how good it looks. The better it looks the more likely it is to be infested with bed bugs.
- Do not purchase refurbished mattresses or couches.
- Do not purchase furniture or other items at a garage sale or thrift store without carefully inspecting it first.
- Never rent furniture or store anyone's furniture in your home.
- If you purchase a new mattress (or any piece of furniture), do not have it delivered to your home. Often the same trucks that deliver new mattresses, also take the old (potentially infested) mattresses away. So your new mattress might pick up bed bugs on the truck.
- If you are helping a friend move, or transporting other people's belongings for any reason, be sure to inspect your vehicle once the belongings have been removed. While bed bugs do not typically survive the heat of a car during the warmer months, the car is an excellent bed bug habitat during the cooler weather.

### WHAT TO DO

If you think you may have a bed bug infestation try to get a sample of a bug stored in a sealed airtight and clear container such as a small jar, or a zipper lock baggie and contact the office at (727) 937-4411.



Adult Bed Bug



Actual Size of Adult Bed Bug