

Covering all the bases

Hotels and homeless shelters change guests often — raising the risk of bed bug infestation and making treatment a challenge.

Adam Stafford, service manager with Pestmaster Services, Kingston, N.Y., and his trained bed bug sniffing dog investigate about five possible cases a day. And when bed bugs are found, whether it's a home or a business, Stafford makes it clear that active mattress liners are mandatory.



The bed bug infestation in the home before Pestmaster of New York (Kingston) came to treat the problem.

“When I do a bed bug job, that’s part of my protocol,” Stafford says. “I use my dog, I use my Eco-Freeze™ device, I use certain pesticides, and the liner comes with it. There’s no choice in it.”

It doesn’t matter whether the job has just a few bed bugs or if, as in a more recent job as Stafford describes, “they could probably pick the guy up and walk away with him.”

Stafford wasn’t always convinced of the efficacy of active mattress liners. It wasn’t until he took part in a research project at the Queens Galley Soup

Kitchen, a place for the homeless to get food and a warm bed, that he saw their effectiveness.

All of the products used during the yearlong study were donated, including 30 *ActiveGuard* Mattress Liners from Allergy Technologies. Pestmaster of Kingston was one of the companies that donated technicians and time each month to evaluate the treatment. The bed liners proved to be very effective against the bed bugs, Stafford reports.

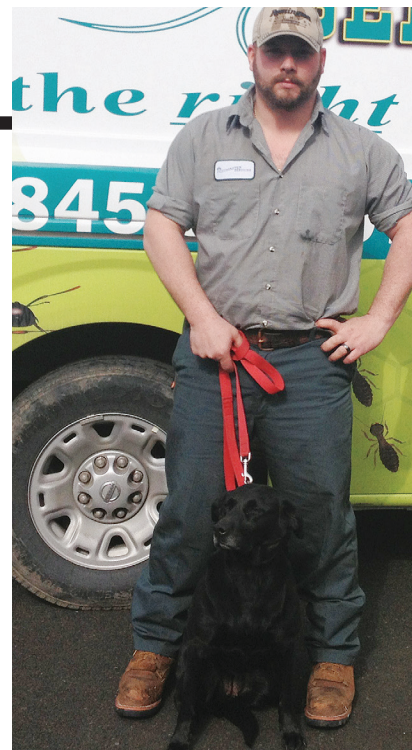
Regardless of the size of the bed bug problem, Stafford incorporates *ActiveGuard* on all of them. If the infestation is small enough, he says the liners solve the problem without the use of any pesticides.

“On small problems, they work phenomenally,” Stafford says. “They work awesome on a program. I put them in all my hotels. I do a lot of drug rehab places — places where a lot of people are in and out every month. It really helps keep bed bugs at bay.”

ActiveGuard is not an encasement, which trap bed bugs that are missed or that hatch after treatment. Rather, it is a fitted sheet that easily goes over the mattress and box spring that kills bed bugs upon contact.

“It’s an insurance policy that works for two years,” Stafford says. “*ActiveGuard* is not an end-all to bed bugs, but it’s one heck of a preventative. They help tremendously. I have them on all the beds in my house.”

Stafford also finds many people like to have *ActiveGuard* to take with them when they’re traveling.



Adam Stafford, Service Manager with Pestmaster Services and his bed bug sniffing dog.

“The best way I can explain it is, it makes people feel better to have some kind of protection,” he says.

And Stafford is no exception. When he was asked if it was always safe to use the product: “I trust them on my kids’ beds.”



Adam Stafford installs an ActiveGuard Mattress Liner over the mattress and box spring of a bed that was infested with bed bugs.