

Bed Bug Awareness Week.

Cecil Tharp (MSU Pesticide Education Specialist)



FIGURE 1. Adult bed bug.
(photo by Ruth O'Neill)



FIGURE 2. Bite welts. (urbanentomology.tamu.edu/bedbugs.cfm)

Bed Bugs are a growing problem in many schools, hotels, and residences across the nation. A 2012 survey of pest management professionals conducted by the National Pest Management Association (NPMA) found that bed bug reports are more common in public places than in previous years. Bed Bugs seem to prefer high traffic areas, including hotels and schools. Before taking your vacation this summer see the pro-active Bed Bug advice for travelers at '[prevention tips for travelers](#)', or the MSU Extension '[MontGuide](#)' for comprehensive information regarding Bed Bugs.

NPMA and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have also teamed up to deliver a webinar on Thursday, April 25th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm (MST) that will address proactive approaches to planning for Bed Bugs in schools, hot spots in schools, management strategies, monitoring techniques, school IPM, and communication to families and staff about bed bugs in schools. Join the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs and NPMA for this [webinar](#).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For more information see the EPA Bed Bug information clearing house at <http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/bedbugs/bedbug-clearinghouse.html> or see the MSU Extension MontGuide titled '[Bed Bugs and Pesticides in the Home](#)'. For more information contact Cecil Tharp, MSU Pesticide Education Specialist (406-994-5067; ctharp@montana.edu).