



# Housing Choice Voucher E-Newsletter

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<http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/>

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## Helpful Hints for Avoiding Bed Bug Exposure



Bed bugs have been big news throughout the United States in the last couple of years. Visitors to homes with a bed bug infestation including public housing agency (PHA) and/or housing inspection staff should be aware that there is a risk of transporting bed bugs. However, they can take a number of precautions to minimize the risk of exposure to bed bugs and to prevent transporting them after leaving the home.

**Prior to visiting a housing unit**, make sure to wear flat-soled shoes or put disposable booties over your shoes to minimize the possibility of transporting bedbugs from floors. Additionally, wearing flat pants without pleats, pockets, or cuffs avoids providing bedbugs with hiding places. Limiting the amount of ornaments on your clothes and accessories like scarves, jewelry, or handbags also limits hiding places for the pests. You may wish to wear shoes that you could put into a hot dryer. Remember that nothing is more effective for killing bed bugs at all life stages than a hot clothes dryer!

**During a visit**, avoid sitting on any furniture or beds since this is where bedbugs are most likely to be. If you need to sit, you may consider bringing your own portable chair or stool. Try to minimize brushing against anything in the home, moving property only when necessary, and avoid removing any property from the home. Avoid setting anything you bring down on any furniture, bedding, or floors. Carry only those items that are essential for the home visit, such as a plastic clipboard or fanny pack for personal items.

**After the visit**, a mirror could be handy to perform an inspection of your clothes, both front and back. If feasible, it is also a good idea to have an additional set of clothes and shoes that you can change into after the site visit.

The Environmental Protection Agency convened its second national Bed Bug Summit in February. If you would like to learn more about bed bugs, you can view the Summit presentations, video webinars, and more.

Visit: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ppdc/bedbug-summit/>



## PIH Notices

**PIH 2011-05**, "Amendment to PIH Notice 2010-40 on Set-Aside Funding Availability for Project-Basing HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers," issued January 27, 2011. This Notice amends Notice 2010-40, issued September 28, 2010, by adding criteria for funding applications with tying scores. If at the end of the selection process, funding will not be available to support two or more applications with the same number of points awarded, a lottery will be held to select among these applications until all of the funding is exhausted. However, if any funding that remains is insufficient to fund the next application at the minimum number of project-based vouchers the PHA will accept, the remaining funding, if sufficient, may go to the next applicant at full funding or the minimum number of project-based vouchers the PHA will accept. If there are funds remaining that are insufficient to fund another application, the funds will be used to provide additional tenant-based HUD-VASH vouchers according to the geographic need of homeless veterans based on HUD and Veteran's Affairs data.

To view the Notices: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/publications/notices/>

## Support Materials for Notice 2011-03 on HUD Web Site



**PIH Notice 2011-03**, "Housing Choice Voucher Family Moves with Continued Assistance," was written about in the March 2011 Housing Choice Voucher newsletter. The funding spreadsheet discussed on page 14 of the Notice and its instructions are posted on the Housing Choice Voucher Web site under the header "Program Related Information." This spreadsheet can assist a PHA in determining if it has sufficient funding available to support a voucher move. It is one method that a PHA can use to determine sufficient funding. This spreadsheet is not a requirement.

View the spreadsheet at: <http://1.usa.gov/eC9xEA>

## Let Us Know!

Thanks to those who have sent comments about the Housing Choice Voucher newsletter. There is still time to send in your thoughts, comments, and story ideas too.

Send an e-mail to [pihirc@firstpic.org](mailto:pihirc@firstpic.org). Put "Housing Choice Voucher E-Newsletter" in the subject line.

We look forward to hearing what you have to say.

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