Dont lose sleep over bed bug scare

By Hayley Burgess
Managing Editor

“Good night, sleep tight tonight, let the bed bugs bite” used to be a cute saying, but now with the largest resurgence of bed bugs since World War II, it is a thought in the back of people’s minds.

In August, both North Carolina Wesley College in Rocky Mount and Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem have had cases of bed bugs. Cataula College in Salisbury had to evacuate approximately 120 students from residence halls in September so exterminators could deal with the infestation. Camp Lejeune also confirmed its first case of bed bugs in September.

Bed bugs are small red-brown colored insects that feed off a warm-blooded host. They tend to be nocturnal, and can live in the walls, floor, and mattresses. Jordan Pinter, a female can lay 200 eggs and they can live for 10 months, said Cora Bullard, director of Student Health Services.

They love to live in mattresses because they love to come out and bite,” Bullard said.

No bed bugs

The number of bed bug infestations across the United States is increasing, but UNCP has not yet had any confirmed cases.

There were several reported cases, but none of them were confirmed when checked out. Even though bed bugs are not at UNCP, it is in the back of the University’s mind.

“It’s always something to think about,” Bullard said. “It’s always on the back burner of our minds like the flu.”

“If not concerned we would be wise on our part,” Associate Director of Residential Facilities David Burns said. “We continue to monitor the news and do our own research to see what’s going on around us.”

“We are going to assume they have bed bugs until we prove otherwise,” Burns said.

Burns said the vinyl mattress being used now in the residence halls and Village Apartments will help with the bed bug problem. They have been passing out the mattresses for a while and there are still a few cloth mattresses left that they are working to replace.

They are also eliminating carpet and continue to outlaw pets in the halls which helps to eliminate bed bug transfer from pets.

Reporting bed bugs

“If a resident student thinks they have bed bugs, Burns said the first thing they need to do is report it to their Resident Assistant,” Burns said.

“They need to physically call with someone,” Burns said.

The Resident Assistant will then get in contact with Building Environmental Service Supervisor Jackie Locklear and Burns to take care of the problem. They will then assume ownership of the room and go through the hall and clean everything.

“It’s always a resident’s room until there is an issue and we will take responsibility of the room,” Burns said.

The housekeeping staff will assist the resident through every step of the process from cleaning the room, to their laundry card to wash the student’s clothes and to ignoring the room is put back together.

“A person’s hygiene doesn’t determine if they will get bed bugs or not,” Burns said.

“It doesn’t matter if the person is clean or not,” Bullard said.

Signs of bed bugs include bites on chests, hands, arms and anywhere there is exposed skin while sleeping.

“There are some people who may have bed bugs and never know it because they don’t see the bites,” Bullard said.

“One every once in a while, there is an allergic reaction,” Bullard said.

Treatment

Treatment for bed bug bites is a steroid cream applied to the infected area. There are no accepted ways to treat an infestation which includes washing of shampoo, bed bug traps for a few days, putting the clothes in a dryer on high heat for 20 minutes, killing them and having a pest control expert treat the bugs in the residence halls and Village Apartments.

“I have never seen proof that the eggs and they can live for several years,” Bullard said.

Don’t lose sleep over bed bug scare

By Christopher Kimball
Staff Writer

Students who haven’t registered their vehicles are parked in spaces needed by students who have registered their vehicles and been issued a vehicle.

“When we have very few students who register vehicles, it is an issue,” said Kelvin R. Townsend, a support associate for the police and public safety department.

“That makes it hard for students who are registering their vehicles.”

Students who have unregistered vehicles parked in areas designated for registered students should report the vehicle to the police and public safety department.

“Students who have unregistered vehicles parked in areas designated for registered students should report the vehicle to the police and public safety department,” Townsend said.

Some students around campus have said that there are just not enough parking spots conveniently located near buildings where classes are held.

“I really feel that the faculty has way more convenient parking spots elsewhere,” said Jade A. Locklear, a sophomore who is studying broadcasting.

“Having to park near the train tracks does me no good when I have class in the morning,” she said.

Gabrielle V. Lover, a junior who is studying journalism, said, “I have had situations where I could not find a parking space in a designated area. I have received multiple tickets from parking in the wrong area, but I had only parked there because there were no other spots available.”

Townsend said the police and public safety department takes time during the summer to assess the number of parking spots available. Records show that there are currently enough parking spaces for everyone who has registered a vehicle.

“It is unfortunate convenient parking isn’t everywhere,” Townsend said.

According to the UNCP website, students can be ticketed $60 for not registering their vehicles and between $31.5 and $60 for illegally parking.

“We do not want students to pay for tickets,” Townsend said. “A lot of students are unaware of parking rules and regulations.”

For this reason, the police and public safety department is looking into ways to assist students who are having issues with parking.

“Every once in a while there is an allergic reaction,” Townsend said.

Continued on page 2A

Unregistered cars leave less spaces for parking

By Kiahle Sampson
Layout Editor

The University of North Carolina System Board of Governors has implemented a policy increasing the tuition surcharge from 25 percent to 50 percent.

Beginning this semester, students seeking a bachelor’s degree with an average of 120 credit hours received a 50 percent increase in tuition.

Students with more than 110 percent of the credit hours needed to graduate in their major will also receive the tuition surcharge increase.

The North Carolina General Statute was officially adopted on Aug. 17 and is effective immediately. All universities in the UNC system have received the new guidelines, according to Sharon Kissick, University registrar.

“Every once in a while, there is an attenuated course work, including courses failed.”